People in need

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

Source: OCHA / May 2019
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SUMMARY

KEY FIGURES¹

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<th>PEOPLE TARGETED</th>
<th>REQUIREMENTS (US$)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>37M</td>
<td>6.7M</td>
<td>1.75M</td>
<td>701M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE IN-CAMPS: 0.5M
INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE OUT-OF-CAMPS: 0.55M
RETURNEES: 0.5M
VULNERABLE HOST COMMUNITIES: 0.2M

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1
Post-conflict transition towards durable solutions.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2
Ensuring the Centrality of Protection.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3
Strengthening contingency planning and preparedness.

¹ Humanitarian Response Plan 2019
# Highlight of Achievements to Date

## Health
- Partners reached **526,470 individuals** with primary health care (PHC) services
- **1,014 people** received physical rehabilitation services such as prosthetics
- **69,923 children** were vaccinated through routine immunization against polio and measles

## Food Security
- **424,000 people** were reached by in-kind and cash-based assistance in IDP camps
- **16,500 beneficiaries** were reached through cash-for-work programming in priority governorates of Diyala and Ninewa.

## WASH
- Partners provided life-saving WASH assistance to approximately **306,000 people** affected by floods
- Cholera prevention programming reached **173,000 IDPs** both in camps and in out-of-camp locations

## Emergency Livelihoods
- **3,552 people** reached by programming focusing on asset replacement, business skills training and the restoration of businesses

## Education
- **160,000 children** have been provided with access to education
- **24,000 children** received psychosocial support in schools
- **70 schools** have disaster risk reduction plans in place

## Shelter/NFI
- NFI assistance reached **84,300 people** during first five months of 2019
- **158 national staff** from **25 organizations** participated in field trainings on cluster priorities
- SNFI cluster partnered with UN-HABITAT to develop a data visualization dashboard to coordinate housing reconstruction and rehabilitation activities in Iraq

## Camp Coordination & Camp Management
- Partners provided **455,607 individuals** with humanitarian assistance in 97 formal camps
- **12 Community Resources Centres** serviced the needs of **22,405 people** in prioritized governorates

## Protection
- Legal protection partners provided legal assistance or counselling on civil documentation, detention, family law matters to more than **28,900 individuals**
- Mine Action partners provided explosive hazards risk education to approximately **290,000 people**
- Child protection partners launched an online case management platform in Dohuk to improve case management
- GBV partners implemented programming to **180,625 people** (58 per cent of which were women and girls)
- HLP partners provided awareness-raising sessions on HLP to **3,440 beneficiaries**

## Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance
- Reached **134,574 individuals** with multi-purpose cash assistance.

## Inter-Cluster

In 2019, partners reached approximately **840,000 people** with some form of humanitarian assistance. This represents **48 per cent** of the **1.75 million** people targeted by the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan. Humanitarian partners implemented most of their projects in Ninewa and Duhok governorates, which host the highest number of IDPs. These two governorates accounting for **77 per cent** of food security response, **70 per cent** of all CCCM programming, **66 per cent** of all health activities, and **58 per cent** of all WASH projects.
Humanitarian context / Key developments

In many respects, the humanitarian context in Iraq has maintained the status quo in 2019. However, despite detailed needs assessments and strategic response planning, the operational environment for which the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was crafted has moved in unanticipated directions, and in some instances, deteriorated. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) continue to return to their areas of origin, although at a markedly reduced rate from recent years. In January 2019, there were approximately 1.8 million IDPs in Iraq, and as of May 2019, that number had fallen to 1.67 million, a reduction of 7.5 per cent. There is a common perception that those with means and ability to independently return to their areas of origin have already done so, while the population that remains displaced will continue to need considerable help from political, humanitarian, and development actors both during their displacement and in order to return. Recent targeting exercises carried out by the CCCM Cluster and WFP indicated that the population of in-camp IDPs targeted in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) may be at least 10 per cent lower, or approximately 50,000 people fewer, which will lead to a probable adjustment in programming. There are several reasons suspected for the variance, including intentional inflation at household level and undocumented migration outside the camps.

More than one year after federal elections in May 2018, at least one Cabinet position has yet to be filled, although three prominent posts likely to impact humanitarian operations (Ministers of Justice, Defence and Interior) have recently been appointed. Enhanced coherence in policymaking by the Government of Iraq may result, although a review of the 2020 Budget indicates that, despite record oil revenues, the budgets for migration and displacement, and for basic services such as electricity, water supply and infrastructure, are limited. This will affect service provision for all Iraqis, especially IDPs and host communities who are among the most vulnerable.

Escalating tensions between the United States and Iran, two influential allies, add to the uncertain operating context. The Prime Minister’s efforts to rein in the influence of the Population Mobilization Forces (PMF) militias have not yet been fully realized, but as the PMF are a key driver of access constraints in certain regions and of ethno-social tensions in some return areas, the endeavor is welcome nonetheless.

Natural disasters and phenomena, although not wholly unexpected, continue to highlight gaps in humanitarian planning and preparedness. Heavier than usual rainfall and flooding in several governorates in March/April 2019 revealed the limited presence and coordination of UN agencies and humanitarian partners in southern Iraq. In parallel, an unanticipated outbreak of hundreds of small-scale fires in agricultural fields across 11 governorates may impact livelihoods and food security in coming months. Most of the fires are presumed to be intentionally lit: the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has claimed responsibility for some of the fires. Certain observers believe the fires are an intentional tactic targeting returnees or aiming to deter IDPs from returning, and there are also concerns that the arson attacks could be political in nature, noting patterns in the locations of the fires within contested areas. Effects on humanitarian operations has so far been limited, but the full impact has not yet been assessed.

Also unforeseen when the 2019 HRP was originally being developed was the large-scale repatriation of Iraqi citizens from Al-Hol camp in Syria. The majority of Al-Hol camp residents fled Baghouz in eastern Syria during the fierce military campaign against ISIL. The current population of the camp is approximately 73,000 people, of whom an estimated 31,000 are Iraqi citizens; of these, 84 per cent are women and children. Most of the Iraqis residing in Al-Hol are expected to be repatriated to Iraq. The return of Iraqi citizens from Syria is ultimately a question for the Government of Iraq (GoI) regarding timing, sequencing, security screening, and destination. Unverified information concerning the numbers of people and their dates of departure is continuously circulating, but there has been no official announcement form the GoI with specific details. The Government of Iraq has indicated that any returns will be voluntary in nature. However, given the government’s security concerns, potential antagonism from other Iraqis to the returnees, and the returnees’ significant humanitarian needs, it is anticipated that most of this population will reside in existing IDP camps upon their return. The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) has prepared and disseminated an operational plan to host returning Iraqis within a multi-camp approach drawn from existing humanitarian camps in Ninewa Governorate. Immediate challenges will concern the availability of infrastructure – plots, tents, and water, sanitation and hygiene. The more demanding and protracted challenges will be around the quality of health, nutrition, education, psychosocial support and protection programming for what will be a complex caseload. These needs will be additional to those already identified by the clusters in the 2019 HRP.

The presence of armed military and security actors in camps, particularly in Al-Anbar and Ninewa governorates, despite concerted advocacy, has led to an increase in the prevalence of
CHANGES IN HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

OVERVIEW OF DISPLACEMENT DUE TO FLOODS, AS OF 30 APRIL 2019

Displaced persons due to floods (March - April 2019)

Total number of displaced persons per governorate (DTM as of 30 April 2019)

Primary response needs to flood-affected IDPs

- SNFI
- Health
- FSC
- WASH
serious protection incidents including forced evictions/returns, arbitrary arrests/detention, physical violence and harassment, and gender-based violence (GBV) incidents, including sexual exploitation and abuse. The operational independence of humanitarian actors has often been obstructed, including through periodic demands for beneficiary data. In areas of origin, access to specialized services for GBV survivors is limited.

The establishment of Housing, Land and Property (HLP) compensation mechanisms—such as compensation sub-committees—in governorates affected by the conflict against ISIL has progressed in comparison to 2018, but is not fully functional in remote areas including Sinjar District, Ninewa (where the Yazidi population is based). The GoI’s budgetary constraints continue to impede the payment of recognized HLP compensation claims. Moreover, restitution of unlawfully occupied property belonging to IDPs remains a challenge due to delayed restoration of courts in newly accessible areas including Sinjar. Additionally, increasing challenges by local government and security actors to the provision of humanitarian assistance to returnees based on perception of affiliations with ISIL have been observed in Anbar, Ninewa, Kirkuk and Salah Al-Din.

Forced or coerced returns are occurring on a larger scale than anticipated in Anbar and Ninewa governorates and increasing elsewhere. Security actors have been an ongoing presence in camps in these areas pressuring both IDPs and humanitarian organizations to facilitate departures, regardless of clearance to return to their areas of origin; this includes people for whom areas of origin are not yet conducive to return due to lack of basic services, livelihoods opportunities, housing, or social cohesion, or the presence of explosive remnants of war. In some instances, forced returns have resulted in secondary displacement on arrival as the returns were not durable.

Update on severity and people in need analysis
Cluster-based monitoring and data collection shows that the 30 prioritized districts should continue to be targeted with high inter-sectoral prioritization. The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Returns Index Round III identified 28 key locations across six governorates with a very high severity of needs. Southern governorates including Al-Basrah, Wasit, Al-Muthanna and Thi Qar were hit by heavy rain in March and April and remain vulnerable to the impact of future natural hazards. The WASH Cluster’s planned assessment in the third quarter of 2019 may help to determine severity in these governorates. The recent destruction by fire of several hundred agricultural fields across multiple governorates has increased the vulnerability of some farmers. Some clusters have identified further district-level severity: the Education Cluster has identified Al-Qa’im in Al-Anbar Governorate as a priority; the Emergency Livelihoods Cluster has assessed Khanaqin in Diyala Governorate as having severe needs, and the Child Protection Sub-cluster prioritizing Erbil District in Erbil. In IDP camps, a vulnerability exercise conducted by WFP demonstrated that 53,781 people (14 per cent of the HRP-targeted population) were not actually food insecure per accepted metrics, necessitating a modification of programming. Health Cluster data shows that there may be a greater need for physical rehabilitation, mental health and psychological trauma response than originally targeted.

Displacement and Returns Trends
The Displacement Tracking Matrix and REACH Initiative indicate that 61 per cent of all IDPs in Iraq are currently considered to be in protracted displacement, and nearly 90 per cent are projected to remain in displacement over the coming 12 months. Ninewa remains the governorate that is both the area of origin for the largest percentage of IDPs (77 per cent hail from Ninewa) as well as the governorate hosting the largest number of IDPs (53 per cent of all IDPs are in Ninewa). Duhok, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah also host significant numbers of IDPs, although there are IDPs found in all 18 governorates. IDPs are fairly consistent in their motives for remaining displaced, citing damaged or destroyed housing as the primary factor, followed by lack of livelihoods and basic services, concerns about security and/or social cohesion, and perceived presence of unexploded ordinance. Approximately 60 per cent of IDPs live in private residences in out-of-camp settings; 30 per cent live in camps, and slightly fewer than 10 per cent live in critical shelter. Nearly all families who have returned to their areas of origin (an estimated 95 per cent) have returned to a habitual residence that is in a good condition; two per cent are living in other private settings (host families or rented accommodation); and three per cent are living in critical shelters. Reasons given for return have remained constant and include improvements in the security situation, provision of services and rehabilitation of houses in areas of origin.

A general appraisal of the data, therefore, would suggest that those who have returned did so because they had a home in good condition to return to, felt safe in doing so, and believed that there were adequate schools, hospitals and employment opportunities to support their families in the areas of origin. However, the inverse is also true: those who remain in, or are at risk of, protracted displacement do so not out of preference, but due to a lack of feasible alternatives. Moreover, conditions in areas of return are not uniformly suitable to support sustainable returns. Of the approximately 4.3 million people who have returned to areas of origin after displacement during the armed conflict against ISIL, 12 per cent (508,000 people) are assessed to be living in conditions of high or very high severity across eight governorates (indicating a lack of livelihoods, services, social cohesion and security). The top five locations with the most severe conditions are in Salah Al-Din Governorate. Despite
OVERVIEW OF DISPLACEMENT

1.6M
INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

4.2M
RETURNNEES

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Source: OCHA, IOM DTM

IDP AND RETURNNEES MOVEMENTS PER MONTH (2018 - 2019)

this, humanitarian presence in priority returns districts with high severity in Diyala, Kirkuk and Salah Al-Din remains lower than required to meet humanitarian needs in these locations.

Access

In July 2019, OCHA facilitated focus group discussions with humanitarian partners to estimate the severity of access constraints within operational areas, using a three-point scale ranging from fully accessible to highly inaccessible.

Findings show that of the 60 districts with humanitarian presence or programmes in central and northern governorates, 62 per cent are accessible or have relatively low access constraints. Approximately 28 per cent of districts in central and northern governorates have moderate access constraints, while only six districts—Al-Rutba in Al-Anbar, Al-Baaj and Al-Hatra in Ninewa, and Balad, Samarra and Tooz Khurmato in Salah Al-Din—are extremely difficult to access. Of the 30 districts prioritized in the 2019 HRP, 11 districts in Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Salah Al-Din, are perceived to have moderate to high access constraints.

For all districts with moderate or high access constraints, in general, the most pervasive access challenges are administrative in nature. Humanitarian organizations face persistent restrictions on the movement of personnel and supplies. All organization types (UN, INGOs, NNGOs) reported checkpoint-related access difficulties in at least half of all districts covered.

The restrictions are indicative of a wider trend of local-level authorities disregarding the nationally-agreed-upon procedures including acceptance of national access letters. Military actors as well as civil authorities have been demanding that additional approvals be obtained locally, specifically supplementary permissions other than the federal letters of authorization. Such restraints have significant impact on humanitarian aid delivery, leading in some instances to lower-than-anticipated rates of service provision.

The UN and NGOs are engaging in high-level advocacy with the national and provincial government authorities, as well as conducting outreach with local communities and persons of influence in areas of operation to address and alleviate these issues.

---

**DISTRICT LEVEL ACCESS SEVERITY AS PERCEIVED BY HUMANITARIAN ACTORS**

*LEGEND*

- **Accessible / Low access constraints (Level 1):** Relatively few access constraints. Armed actors, checkpoints, or other impediments such as administrative obstacles may be present and may impede humanitarian activities. However, with adequate resources and clearances, humanitarian organisations can still operate and reach all or nearly all targeted people in need.

- **Moderate access constraints (Level 2):** Armed actors, checkpoints, lack of security, administrative impediments, or other impediments may be present, and often result in restrictions on humanitarian movements and operations. Operations continue in these areas with regular restrictions.

- **High access constraints (Level 3):** Armed actors, checkpoints, high levels of insecurity, administrative obstacles, as well as other impediments are present and very often result in restrictions on humanitarian movements and operations. Operations in these areas face high difficulties and sometimes are impossible.
**TOP LINE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Humanitarian needs in out-of-camp locations**

The needs of out-of-camp IDPs, returnees and vulnerable host communities are not on track to be met. During the first five months of 2019, partners reached approximately 840,000 people with some form of humanitarian assistance. This represents 48 per cent of the 1.75 million people targeted by the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan. Most cluster activities reached in-camp IDPs, with 456,000 of the 500,000 targeted (91 per cent) receiving assistance in either an inter-cluster or cluster-specific prioritized area. Approximately one third of 500,000 targeted returnees benefitted from humanitarian assistance. In comparison, 30 per cent of the 550,000 out-of-camp IDPs targeted by the 2019 HRP received humanitarian assistance. Slightly less than 20 per cent of the 200,000-people identified within vulnerable host communities were reached through humanitarian programming. Humanitarian partners implemented the bulk of their projects in Ninewa and Duhok governorates, the two provinces hosting the majority of IDP camps; this is in contrast to Kirkuk, Diyala and Salah Al-Din, where significantly less humanitarian programming was directed, despite being identified as areas with a high or very high severity of conditions, which indicates a lack of livelihoods, services, social cohesion and security.

**Recommendation:** Clusters should scale-up programming to out-of-camp IDPs, returnees and vulnerable host communities in line with targets identified in the 2019 HNO and HRP.

**The Centrality of Protection**

Responders prioritize humanitarian protection but operate within a fragile context. Humanitarian actors in Iraq have prioritized the protection agenda during the first five months of 2019, but multiple violations continue to be recorded. According to an incident tracking matrix piloted by the CCCM and Protection clusters in camps in Ninewa (to be replicated elsewhere), incidents including interference with distributions or diversion of assistance, restriction of movement, GBV (including exploitation and abuse), verbal and physical assaults, and arbitrary arrests/detentions have all been recorded. These are due primarily to violations of the civilian character of camps (i.e. the presence of armed security actors within IDP camps). There is a significant shortage of data about out-of-camp IDPs and returnees, as well as information gaps about incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse. A PSEA Coordinator has been appointed, reporting to the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC). Families with perceived affiliations to ISIL continue to be among the most vulnerable in Iraq, and their needs are growing as the position of the Government of Iraq and fellow citizens harden against them. In addition, unexploded ordinance, both on private property and in public spaces, continues to be a major constraint impacting returns.

**Recommendation:** Humanitarian actors in Iraq must continue to prioritize the protection agenda and engage with all possible interlocutors to pre-empt and remedy protection violations, including through platforms such as the Protection Cluster’s Services Advisor.

**Engagement with development and stabilization partners to support durable solutions**

The humanitarian-development-stabilization nexus demands strengthening. Limited cooperation and collaboration among nexus partners remains a critical constraint. UN agencies, NGOs, and donors continue to operate in silos, preventing clear coordination of a unified strategy. The intersection of programming is clear, where recovery, livelihoods, basic services provision, peace/stabilization issues, shelter reconstruction and protection services meet. Returns intentions surveys indicate that 95 per cent of IDPs do not see themselves returning home within the next 12 months, due to a chronic lack of security and livelihood opportunities upon return. The humanitarian consequence of inaction is clear: without greater engagement by development and stabilization partners, conflict-affected Iraqis remain in need of urgent, life-saving assistance. Identification of durable solutions is not the responsibility of humanitarian actors alone. The absence of a dedicated focal point within the government, and a development system that does not have a contemporary framework through which to operate, has hamstrung a significant portion of humanitarian programming in 2019. Humanitarians have identified and are addressing priority issues including access constraints, engagement with Governorate Returns Committees (GRCs), the removal of UXO, provision of civil documentation, and remedies to housing, land and property disputes. However, without progress from development actors on recovery and resilience activities, and without any contribution to the significant financial needs identified at the Kuwait conference, advancement may continue to be stalled. The Recovery and Resilience Programme has not to date demonstrated any significant results or engagement with humanitarian programming. Similarly, the Funding Facility
for Stabilization has little coordination with humanitarian agencies around prioritization and strategy. Inter-agency field missions to returns areas identified as high severity, such as Tooz Khurmato in Salah Al-Din and Al-Hawiga in Kirkuk, demonstrate the immense challenges ahead in encouraging people to return to areas of widespread devastation, in districts whose populations feel overlooked as the governorate authorities do not even release annual budgets for the district government.

Recommendation: The humanitarian community in Iraq should continue intensive engagement with national, provincial and local authorities to facilitate access and raise awareness of humanitarian principles. It should also reinforce interventions in prioritized geographic areas, and scale up activities, where appropriate, on emergency livelihoods and emergency shelter. Recovery and resilience actors should engage, as matter of urgency, on reconciliation and social cohesion activities and the rehabilitation of basic services as well as reinforce their presence in disputed areas. A functioning nexus coordination mechanism, aligning programming, investments and strategy, needs to be created with a functioning footprint at the governorate level, where decisions are taken. In addition, government plans need to be better defined and more clearly communicated with partners and all populations of concern, including displaced people, returnees and host communities so that they can plan their futures.

Needs Assessments and Prioritization

Regular needs assessments are ongoing and well-coordinated, but are not uniform across all clusters and by all actors. During the first five months of 2019, 30 assessments had been conducted by humanitarian actors in Iraq, 7 were ongoing, and an additional 26 were planned, as reported by cluster lead agencies. More than 80 per cent of assessments were carried out by international NGOs, followed by national NGOs and United Nations agencies. Ninewa was the site of the highest numbers of assessments, followed by other northern and central governorates. The south-central governorates experienced the fewest number of assessments. The multi-purpose cash assistance working group carried out the greatest number of assessments, followed by shelter and non-food items, camp coordination and camp management, multi-sector assessments, education and health clusters. As of 31 May 2019, no assessments had been individually recorded by the WASH, protection or food security clusters.

However, the protection cluster did regularly present the findings of their Rapid Protection Assessments to ICCG partners throughout 2019.

Recommendation: Humanitarian partners should expand the scope of their assessment to governorates and districts with high or very high needs severity. Clusters which have not yet engaged in needs assessments (or only engaged in a limited number) should intensify their assessment activity during the remaining months of 2019.

Minimum standards in camps and out-of-camp locations

Minimum standards are not being reached. In both IDP camps and out-of-camp settings, minimum standards for targeted populations are not being reached, across all technical sectors. A range of factors are responsible, including the inflation of population figures in some camps by households and camp management, the existence of many camps with small remaining populations spread over large geographic areas, inadequate monitoring and lack of sufficient funding. Health and GBV services have been particularly affected in 2019, with service closures rendering some populations without access to essential services in high risk locations. Equally, lack of predictability around camp closures and consolidation is limiting planning for WASH services and upgrades.

Recommendation: Ongoing assessments will verify population figures and an agreed strategy on camp closures and consolidation remains a critical discussion to improve cost efficiency, access and monitoring in fewer camps.

Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

Humanitarian actors do not have comprehensive mechanisms in place to engage with affected populations. Humanitarian actors in Iraq largely rely upon engagement with the Iraq IDP Information Centre (IIC) — a call centre situated in Erbil — to fulfill their Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) obligations. However, an in-depth review undertaken by the IIC of its activities, outreach, referrals and follow-up during the first five months of 2019 found that operational enhancements could be made to improve the Centre’s effectiveness, and that additional engagement was needed by cluster-lead agencies, NGOs and donors alike. These findings run in parallel to the fragmentation of aid delivery and somewhat haphazard scale down in services since the end of combat operations was declared in December 2017. As clusters may lack a comprehensive view of where beneficiaries are, they are unable to effectively meet their needs.

Recommendation: Humanitarian partners in Iraq need to improve their collaboration with the IIC and explore additional ways mapping the needs of their beneficiaries, including commitments to reporting mechanisms such as ActivityInfo and 3Ws. They should also meaningfully engage with other AAP platforms, such as Community Resource Centres, and improve their outreach to IDPs in out-of-camp settings, returnees and host communities.
OVERVIEW

During the first five months of 2019, partners reached approximately 840,000 people with some form of humanitarian assistance. This represents 48 per cent of the 1.75 million people targeted by the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan. Humanitarian partners implemented most of their projects in Ninewa and Duhok governorates, with these two governorates accounting for 77 per cent of food security response, 70 per cent of all CCCM programming, 66 per cent of all health activities, and 58 per cent of all WASH programmes.

CUMULATIVE REACH/INTERVENTIONS BY SECTOR (JAN - JUNE 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLUSTERS</th>
<th>PEOPLE IN NEED</th>
<th>PEOPLE TARGETED</th>
<th>PEOPLE REACHED</th>
<th>% TARGET REACHED</th>
<th>FUNDING REQUESTED (US$)</th>
<th>FUNDING RECEIVED (US$)</th>
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<tr>
<td>GP, MA&amp;HLP</td>
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<td>26</td>
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RESPONSE BY MODALITY

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<tr>
<th>MODALITY</th>
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STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

POST-CONFLICT TRANSITION TOWARDS DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Progress Made

Most programming was implemented under Strategic Objective 1, with 634,000 people reached, or approximately 70 per cent of the overall response. Under this Strategic Objective, food security partners distributed cash assistance and monthly dry food rations; and the Education Cluster supported the registration and enrollment of IDP children into formal and non-formal schools and temporary learning spaces. WASH partners undertook several initiatives under this Strategic Objective, including the use of solar-powered water systems, expanded WASH interventions in schools and health facilities to strengthen community resilience, and the introduction of sustainable water management approaches. CCCM monitored service delivery in camps to identify gaps and avoid duplication of activities and prepared for camp closures and consolidations where appropriate. Together with partners, the Protection Cluster has been addressing barriers to durable solutions, including return, local integration and relocation through monitoring of evictions and return movements from settlements and camps, the provision of legal aid on documentation issues to ensure the enjoyment of civil and political rights, and the provision of legal aid on arbitrary detention cases to restore family linkages, as well as conducting household-level protection monitoring.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

ENSURING THE CENTRALITY OF PROTECTION

Progress Made

Clusters reached approximately 84,000 people under Strategic Objective 2, including by conducting awareness-raising activities on: access to assistance; child protection programming; gender-based violence prevention and response; housing, land and property rights; and explosive hazard risk education. The HC, Humanitarian Country Team, Protection Cluster, CCCM Cluster and relevant UN agencies engaged in sustained advocacy on behalf of persons with perceived affiliation to extremist groups. OCHA and the Protection Cluster continued engagement with GRCs, promoting discussions on camp consolidation and closures which consider the government’s commitment to facilitate safe, voluntary, informed, dignified and sustainable returns. Following the GBV mainstreaming workshop organized by UNHCR in December 2018, the CCCM, SNFI and Protection Clusters, and the Cash Working Group undertook actions to enhance GBV prevention and risk mitigation. Key assessment tools, such as the Formal Site Monitoring Tool (FSMT) have been revised by the CCCM Cluster to enhance disaggregation of data by gender and age in order to better understand and support increased participation of women in camp management community structures and camp management teams. Moreover, the Shelter/NFIs and CCCM Clusters, in close consultation with the GBV Sub-Cluster, are developing a comprehensive safety audit tool to assess and respond to site-level GBV risks such as those associated with the camp layout and infrastructure, security, and women’s participation. The PSEA Network has been revitalized under the HC’s direction, and a dedicated PSEA Coordinator hired in order to strengthen reporting mechanisms and case management.
### Strategic Objectives: Achievements to Date

#### Cluster Target People reached

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<th>Cluster</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>People reached</th>
<th>Al-Anbar</th>
<th>Al-Basrah</th>
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<th>Al-Qadissiya</th>
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<th>Kirkuk</th>
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#### People Reached by Cluster and Governorate (Inter-Cluster Priority)

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STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

STRENGTHENING CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS

Progress Made

Clusters reached approximately 84,000 people under Strategic Objective 3, including engaging in immunization campaigns for vaccine-preventable diseases, the pre-positioning of core relief items and supplies (buckets, jerry cans, garbage bags, garbage bins, hygiene items, fliers) and emergency equipment (water tanks, RO or compact units, generators, mobile latrines, mobile showers), and ongoing feasibility studies of cash interventions and market assessments. Clusters also worked to prepare and support the Operations Plan to support returns of Iraqi citizens from Al-Hol camp in Syria and identified gaps in the coordination structure for southern governorates, which became necessary due to the impact of heavy flooding in March/April 2019.
Durable Solutions

The Returns Working Group facilitated a roundtable discussion on protracted displacement in Erbil in May which brought together humanitarian, development, donors and Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) stakeholders. The roundtable:

1. Presented research findings on protracted displacement, drivers of integration and mental health as obstacles to return, and conditions in areas of return and displacement;
2. Provided a platform to operationalize strategies for durable solutions;
3. Developed a protracted displacement framework to be used as a basis for further discussion for those who are unable to return due to conditions in their areas of origin.

The identification of durable solutions remains challenging, with many Iraqis, both IDPs and refugees hosted in Syria, unable to safely repatriate and re integrate. ISIL continues to commit small-scale attacks in several parts of the country and Iraqi authorities identify the presence of residual presence of ISIL as a major security threat. As such, the treatment of people with perceived affiliations to ISIL is viewed by authorities through a security lens and falls under the remit of security and intelligence actors. This includes distinctly non-humanitarian treatment of people with known or perceived affiliations to ISIL, such as denial of civil documentation or clearance to allow for safe returns, protracted detention or restrictions on movement, including re-entry to Iraq. Equally, at the community level, lack of community-based protection or social cohesion initiatives has resulted in some IDPs returning to their homes and being secondarily displaced after hostility by community members.

High levels of mistrust remain acute within communities. The existing legal and policy framework does not support the provision of legal documentation for children born under territories previously controlled by ISIL, and still relies on the legal requirements established before the recent conflict, which include the presence of the father in court, existence of fathers’ death certificates, or existence of recognized marriage certificates. For those who are unable to obtain civil documentation, including women and children with suspected relationships to ISIL fighters, many remain in indefinite detention in harsh conditions. The limited restoration of basic services in most areas of origin across Iraq is impacting on sustainable return of IDPs; in many instances, individuals are faced with serious protection concerns once back to their areas of origin, and at times end up in secondary displacement. Lack of effective accountability systems at the central level to address violations of the civilian and humanitarian character of the camps, and rights violations of persons with perceived affiliations, have led to ongoing protection incidents, as well as the obstruction of humanitarian activities in camp settings, including demands for beneficiary data and denial of assistance. Housing, including UXO, is the most reported obstacle to return, reported by around 830,000 IDPs, with 70 per cent of locations reporting up to half the houses to be destroyed or severely damaged. Lack of livelihoods opportunities, perceived insecurity and lack of essential services are also reasons given for low returns intentions. Working with development, stabilization and government partners is fundamental in encouraging a higher number of safe, dignified and voluntary returns in the second half of the year.

Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)

The Cash Working Group (CWG) has undertaken several joint assessments on vulnerability and targeting to support multi-sectoral cash-based interventions (CBI). CBI reached 135,000 returnees, host community members and IDPs out of camps, in 88 locations, delivered by nine partners. Further information is contained in the section on MPCA below.
CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS

Gender, Age, and Disability Access and Inclusion

Partners committed to mainstreaming gender, age and disability-specific interventions, with varying degrees of success. Sex and age disaggregation occurred during assessments, allowing for targeting of different groups based on their specific vulnerabilities and needs. However, there is no detailed assessment of the prevalence of various kinds of disabilities as recommended by the Washington Group methodology, nor a targeting of the response accordingly.

The Protection, Health, CCCM and WASH Clusters proposed in the HRP addressing the needs of vulnerable people, including people with disabilities, with no targets established. Therefore, there has been no reporting of disability access and inclusion achievements against the HRP.

CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS

Joint planning for potential cholera outbreaks has taken place in several governorates with WASH Cluster, Health Cluster and government partners. Hygiene promotion activities focusing on cholera prevention through personal and household hygiene reached more than 170,000 IDPs in 99 locations including camps and informal sites hosting IDPs.

A response plan for returns of Iraqi citizens from Al-Hol camp in Syria has been developed and funding provisionally identified for such a scenario. This plan has been developed by humanitarian partners and proposes a series of protection and service-based response measures from arrival at the border to their proposed residence in camps in Ninewa. Partners continue to advocate social cohesion and advocacy messages with Iraqi authorities, IDP camp residents, and communities in returns areas to support reintegration of Al-Hol residents, due to perceptions of affiliations with ISIL.

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) planning took place in schools, with 70 schools having DRR and preparedness plans in place.

The SNFI Cluster was able to respond quickly with NFI supplies during the floods of March and April. Partners had adequate quantities of stock and were able to replenish items following the response. However, the cluster is working on developing an inventory system to identify levels of pre-positioning around the country and supply chains to restock. Following a short-term support mission by OCHA to southern governorates to support response and coordination to flood-affected areas, the HCT adopted recommendations on SOPs to be used in case of a future natural disaster in the south.
Although somewhat stabilized during 2019, the operating environment for humanitarian responders remains constrained. A virtual stalling of IDP returns has meant that camp-based activities are the focus of most humanitarian response. During the first five months of 2019, partners reached approximately 840,000 people with some form of humanitarian assistance. This represents 48 per cent of the 1.75 million people targeted by the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan. The vast majority of all cluster programming was targeted at in-camp IDPs, as 456,000 of the 500,000 targeted (91 per cent) received aid under either an inter-cluster or cluster-specific priority area. Approximately third of the targeted 500,000 returnees benefitted from humanitarian assistance. In comparison, 30 per cent of the 550,000 out-of-camp IDPs targeted by the 2019 HRP received aid, while slightly less than 20 per cent of the 200,000 people identified within vulnerable host communities were beneficiaries of humanitarian programming.

Humanitarian partners implemented the bulk of their projects in Ninewa and Duhok, with these two governorates accounting for 70 per cent of all CCCM programming, 66 per cent of all health programming, and 58 per cent of all WASH programming. This is in contrast to Kirkuk, Diyala and Salah Al-Din, who have benefitted from significantly less humanitarian programming, despite being identified as areas with a high or very high severity of conditions (indicating a lack of livelihoods, services, social cohesion and security).

HRP funding, while expected to reach stronger targets towards the end of 2019, has been slow. Services have been affected, with closures of vital health and GBV services in camps and out-of-camp locations, despite high needs severity. Partners operating in both sectors have indicated that unpredictable and low funding is the direct catalyst of service closures. A greater share of funding received earlier in the year is required for agencies to plan and deliver year-round services.

Also impacting service delivery is the geographic spread of camp-based IDPs, a significant number of whom reside in small settlements where services cannot reach minimum standards. This poses a challenge in concentrating services, conducting post-distribution monitoring or providing a round-the-clock protection presence, in a cost-effective manner.

The CCCM Cluster developed a position paper on camp consolidation and closures to support HCT in developing an action plan for camps for the second half of 2019.
As of 30 June 2019, the 2019 HRP had attracted US$208 million in funding, or approximately 30 per cent. An additional $95 million in humanitarian funding had been identified outside the HRP. Efforts were ongoing to reconcile within the Financial Tracking System projects not accounted for under HRP programming which would be more appropriately recorded within the HRP.

Based on previous years’ funding contributions and soft pledges towards the 2019 HRP, funding is expected to reach approximately 80-85 per cent of requirements in 2019. However, requesting agencies report that contributions which are provided later in the year have an impact on implementation, which requires early and predictable income. For example, the GBV sub-cluster has reported that significant underfunding has led to a closure of services and inability to operate in locations with high assessed need, such as the Qayyarah camps.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AND PERCENTAGE OF FUNDING PER SECTOR (AS OF JUNE 2019)

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<td>47.5M</td>
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<tr>
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<td>42.2M</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MULTIPLE CLUSTERS (SHARED)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data provided by the Financial Tracking System (FTS). OCHA manages FTS, which records all humanitarian contributions, (cash, in-kind, multilateral and bilateral) to emergencies. FTS reflects funding flows received against the HRP as reported by donors and/or partners. In some cases funding received is under-reported.
## PART II: CLUSTER ACHIEVEMENTS

<table>
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<th>Cluster</th>
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<td>25</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>29</td>
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<td>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food Security</td>
<td>34</td>
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<td>Health</td>
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<td>Camp Coordination and Camp Management</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>Emergency Livelihoods</td>
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<td>Rapid Response Mechanism</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordination and Common Services</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
PROGRESS TOWARDS CLUSTER OBJECTIVES AND KEY PRIORITIES

Cluster Objective 1: Maintain adequate living conditions of vulnerable displaced people in camps through shelter and non-food items support.

Progress in meeting shelter and non-food item (SNFI) needs in camps has been made at a slow, yet steady pace. NFI assistance has reached 10 per cent of the HRP target, in line with funds received during the period. Although the achievements in shelter are low, with just seven per cent of the target reached, most activities for shelter repairs and replacements are in progress and will take place before the rainy season begins in September/October.

Cluster Objective 2: Assist highly vulnerable people out of camp transitioning to durable solutions through the provision of adequate shelter and non-food items in priority areas of displacement and return.

Support with NFIs reached 34 per cent of targeted people in out-of-camp locations. The shelter response for out-of-camp IDPs is very low. This is due to the difficulty in accessing and operating in informal settlements or locations with no tenure security. The ongoing risk of evictions make investments in structural upgrades unsustainable.

For returnees, shelter assistance has reached 11 per cent of the target. The repairs of war-damaged shelters require multiple steps to be completed before repairing damaged houses, including demining, acquisition of civil documentation and proof of ownership, engineering assessments and tendering processes. Due to the complex nature of shelter programmes, which require multi-month or multi-year processes, progress will be completed and become reportable during the second half of the year.

Cluster Objective 3: Contribute to preparedness levels, contingency plans and capacities for large-scale emergencies through shelter interventions and NFI provision.

During the floods in April 2019, partners were able to rapidly access pre-positioned stock and respond quickly to emerging needs. Some larger SNFI partners also have access to stockpiles...
within the region which are rapidly deployable. A nationwide inventory of cluster stockpiles is limited. Partners have informally shared that they expect to be able to rapidly respond with NFIs in future emergency situations and that stock replenishment is reliably undertaken.

Key priorities and recommendations for the way forward

Priorities remain in line with those outlined in the HRP. IDPs in camps that are not meeting the minimum standards for living conditions, and vulnerable people in out-of-camp locations in critical shelter, remain the priority. Emergency shelter assistance remains critical for ensuring safety, privacy, dignity and protection from weather conditions. While the timeline for the implementation of shelter programmes can be lengthy, donors should maintain long-term, multi-year commitment, especially to respond to urgent needs in out-of-camp areas where IDPs and returnees reside.

For IDPs in camps whose tents have passed their lifespan, advocacy with government authorities will continue, to ensure timely support is provided. Government involvement in emergency shelter (tent) provision is vital as many of the tents belong to the government.

The cluster will develop an emergency preparedness plan so that rapid response can be triggered. This will be completed before the rainy season, which often brings floods capable of damaging vital infrastructure including dams, bridges and roads.

Due to the complex and inter-sectoral nature of shelter interventions for returnees, multi-year approaches and joint planning is required. Engagement with donors and development partners around longer-term planning is required.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT

While the needs as identified in the 2019 HNO have not changed, anticipated levels of government support to IDPs and returnees has not increased. This has left many people dependent on humanitarian assistance. Despite advocacy at various levels with line ministries, conditions of the emergency shelter provided by the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) in several IDP camps are not meeting minimum standards. As such, at the end of 2018, the HCT endorsed a reserve allocation of $9 million from the Iraq Humanitarian Fund¹ to replace MoMD-issued tents that no longer provide sufficient protection from harsh climatic conditions for 89,650 individuals.

Key Gaps

- Of the 881,650 people targeted under the HRP, 683,863 individuals remain unassisted. Districts with the highest numbers of unassisted people targeted by the HRP are in Al-Anbar (Al-Falluja and Al-Ramadi with more than 121,000 unserved individuals), Duhok (Sumail and Zakho with more than 75,000 unserved individuals), Kirkuk (Kirkuk District and Daquq with more than 41,000 unserved individuals), Nineveh (Al-Hamdaniya, Al-Mosul, Al-Shikhan and Telafar with more than 260,000 unserved individuals) and Salah Al-Din (Tikrit, with more than 24,000 unserved individuals).

Cluster Performance

Based on the cluster coordination performance monitoring exercise run at the end of 2018, partners expressed their overall satisfaction for the performance provided by the Cluster at national level. Advocacy and building national partner capacity at sub-national level were the key areas identified for strengthening. The cluster has made more systematic use of coordination systems and tools to share information, particularly in relation to coordination of advocacy efforts. A series of field-based trainings have been organized on cluster guidelines and strategies, which have been facilitated in the local language where possible. During the period, 186 participants, comprising 85 per cent national staff, from 25 organizations (including 32 per cent local organizations) were trained. Achievements have been made in information management, with several new tools developed to track of partner programmes. This includes a GIS-based portal for war-damaged repairs, managed by the SNFI Cluster and UN-HABITAT, showing the contribution of both humanitarian and stabilization partners.²

Key Challenges:

- Since the beginning of 2019, 3,500 households (13,669 people) entered various camps as new arrivals. As such, support in camps to provide shelter, NFIs and infrastructure maintenance needs to be continued.

- For camp-based IDPs, replacement of tents is a critical shelter gap, and the need for durable shelter (to avoid continuous tent replacement) should be provided. However, there are legal, budgetary and ethno-political realities which

¹ The Reserve Allocation in Iraq is used to support humanitarian response projects for unplanned or rapid onset emergencies that are not included in the HRP.  
² https://tinyurl.com/y6mvqtta
are barriers to providing longer term and cost-effective emergency shelter.

- The scale of heavy damage to houses requires stabilization and development efforts. Government compensation schemes have not yet been disbursed to returnees whose houses have been damaged by the conflict. These delays in financial compensation are preventing people from returning to their homes to make repairs.

- Access issues and security restrictions have resulted in an uneven presence of cluster members across prioritized districts. There is either one or no partners present in Haditha and Heet in Al-Anbar, Abu Ghaib sub-district and Al-Mahmoudiya in Baghdad, Baquba in Diyala, Al-Shikhan in Ninewa, or Al-Daur, Samarra and Tuz Khurmato in Salah Al-Din).

- Twelve cluster members’ projects in the HRP have not yet been funded. Although funds may be received in the second half of the year, unless funded, these organizations may need to withdraw from Iraq.

**Action to be taken:**

- Close the current overall target gap of 90 per cent (97 per cent in the area of shelter and 85 per cent in the area of NFI)

- Maintain engagement with government authorities on regular provision of humanitarian items (tents, kerosene for heating and cooking, air-water coolers), ensuring no discrimination against specific groups or minorities; disbursement of returns grants; payment of compensation claims for vulnerable people whose shelter was war-damaged; identification of alternative shelter options for vulnerable people threatened by eviction notifications; adherence to the Principled Return Framework so as not to push people back into critical shelter in areas of origin due to lack of living spaces.

- Strengthen coordination and advocacy with stabilization and development actors to ensure complementarity, particularly around the issue of safe and adequate housing for all target populations.
PART II: PROTECTION

PROTECTION

PROGRESS TOWARDS CLUSTER OBJECTIVES AND KEY PRIORITIES

General Protection (GP)
Partners reached 157,188 individuals with protection monitoring in 80 sub-districts. Across Iraq, 6,268 men and women received individual or groups-based psychosocial support in 33 sub-districts. Legal protection partners provided legal assistance or counselling on civil documentation, detention, family law matters to over 28,900 individuals in 78 sub-districts. Under SO2, partners continued advocating with key stakeholders, in particular civil and military authorities, to respect protection norms and applicable standards, in particular the Government of Iraq-endorsed Principled Returns Framework, and ensure that all returns of IDPs are safe, voluntary, informed, dignified and sustainable.

Mine Action Sub-Cluster (MASC)
Partners provided explosive hazards risk education to approximately 292,102 individuals, and surveyed and cleared explosives from 34 million square metres in prioritized areas. United Nations Mine Action agencies provided explosive hazard first responder training to 126 police officers, including 5 women, to support returnees and encourage IDPs to voluntarily and safely repatriate. Both HRP and non-HRP humanitarian mine action activities, inclusive of risk education and clearance, were provided across all prioritized districts to returnees and other people at risk of explosive hazards.

TARGET - GP, MA, HLP

RESPONSE - GP, MA, HLP

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<td><strong>Coordinator Co-Facilitator</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohammed Khan Claudia Nicoletti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>People Targeted</strong></td>
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<td><strong>People Covered</strong></td>
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<td>Percent Funded</td>
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<td>Makiba Yamano Janet Poules</td>
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<td><strong>People Targeted</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicia Eldannawi Florence Adyo</td>
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<td><strong>People Targeted</strong></td>
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<td>Received</td>
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<td>Percent Funded</td>
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<tr>
<td>33.2m</td>
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FUNDING

Requested

Received

Percent Funded

92.9m

21.8m

23.5%

39.9m

8.8 m

22%

33.2m

4.7m

14%
Child Protection Sub-Cluster (CPSC)

Partners reached 295,845 people out of 679,177 targeted (43 per cent). Parents’ programmes reached 49 per cent of the target. Psychosocial support (PSS) activities reached 53 per cent, and case management 42 per cent of targets. The roll-out of the sub-cluster-endorsed PSS programs and case management standard operation procedures supported partners and government counterparts to scale-up services with improved quality. A web-based online case management platform (CPIMS+) was launched in Duhok to improve case management.

Gender Based Violence Sub-Cluster (GBVSC)

Partners reached 180,625 beneficiaries, achieving 24 per cent the target. The majority of reached beneficiaries were IDPs (115,797), followed by host community members (37,910) and returnees (29,317); 85 per cent of beneficiaries were women and girls. GBV partners implemented activities in 82 per cent of the sub-cluster prioritized districts and reached 28 per cent of the awareness-raising target, and 26 per cent of the PSS target. However, the achievement of case management and capacity building targets was much lower than expected, with 10 per cent and 10 per cent respectively, due to delays in funding disbursement.

Housing, Land and Property Sub-Cluster (HLPSC)

The sub-cluster supports other clusters such as SNFI and sub-clusters such as Mine Action with mainstreaming of HLP protection issues. HLP partners provided awareness-raising sessions on HLP to 3,440 individuals (35 per cent of the target) but received limited funding to implement
legal assistance and counselling activities on HLP issues.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT

Unilateral decisions by civilian authorities and military/security actors to consolidate and close camps, particularly in southern and central Iraq, and to forcibly and prematurely return IDPs to their areas of origin, have impeded effective delivery of protection assistance in camps and led to increased secondary displacement in areas of origin. Where movement restrictions in camps are more severe, they have disrupted access to livelihoods, education and health care, and led to an increase in negative coping strategies, including survival sex and child labour. Access to public services – e.g. courts, civil registries, HLP compensation and government social welfare benefits – remains limited in areas of displacement and origin, despite commitments from authorities to restore such services. Individuals with perceived affiliation to extremist groups, particularly women and children, have experienced major barriers in accessing public services. They also face denial of humanitarian assistance, severe movement restrictions, and widespread social discrimination (heightened by their segregation within camps).

Severity Update

The CPSC shows a high number of IDPs in need of child protection services in Erbil. As such, the CPSC may reconsider inclusion of Erbil District targets.

KEY GAPS

General Protection

Gaps in legal assistance, PSS for adults, emergency cash for protection, and capacity building are most pronounced in Al-Anbar (Al-Qa'im and Al-Rutba districts), Baghdad (Al-Karkh District), Ninewa (Al-Baaj, Sinjar, Telafar and Tilkaef districts), and Salah Al-Din (Tikrit District). This is due to the late release of funds, aside from the first 2019 IHF Standard Allocation. Community-based activities and capacity building of partners on resilience-oriented PSS needs to be prioritized along with referrals to multi-sectoral interventions (livelihood, multi-purpose cash, etc.) to address the root causes of psychosocial distress of IDPs and returnees.

Cluster Performance

A partners’ perception survey conducted in May 2019 showed that 50 per cent of respondents rated National Protection Cluster (NPC) meetings as useful, with 71 per cent of respondents satisfied with NPC’s needs and gap analysis and 79 per cent satisfied with NPC’s capacity building of partners. Just over half of respondents were satisfied with NPC’s advocacy (e.g. on humanitarian access, visa restrictions, funding, etc.), and 71 per cent were satisfied with NPC’s advocacy on behalf of affected populations.

Areas for improvement include sharing of information on funding opportunities, and greater technical, operational and capacity building support to partners in under-served governorates (particularly in southern and central Iraq). To this end, the NPC organized a series of workshops in nine governorates on protection for vulnerable IDPs and returnees, including roll-out

1 Duhok (Sumail, 15 per cent reached; Zakho, 19 per cent reached), Kirkuk (Kirkuk District, 26 per cent reached) and Salah Al-Din (Tooz Khurmato, 0 per cent reached). Gaps among the returnee population are identified in Al-Anbar governorates (Al-Falluja, 0 per cent reached; Al-Ramadi, 21 per cent reached), Ninewa (Al-Hamdaniya, 20 per cent reached; Telafar, 3 per cent reached; Tilkaef, 1 per cent reached), and Salah Al-Din (Tikrit, 15 per cent reached).

2 According to February 2019 intention survey (CCCM Cluster and Reach Initiative), 37 per cent of IDP households who do not intend to return to their area of origin reported concerns of presence of explosive hazard contamination as a primarily safety concern. Additionally, a high proportion of IDP households reported damages to their homes (77 per cent).
of Kobo-based reporting tools on rights violations of persons with perceived affiliations to ISIL, and incidents undermining the civilian character of camps. Additional trainings on the same topics will be conducted in Kurdistan Region of Iraq, and central and southern Iraq from July 2019. Despite the delivery of training on the ActivityInfo reporting system, there were inconsistencies in partner reporting. NPC also introduced a comprehensive online service mapping platform i.e. Service Advisor to strengthen protection and non-protection partner capacity to refer conflict-affected persons to specialized protection services. A separate survey conducted by the CPSC revealed that it was rated as excellent or good with respect to the use of coordination tools and inclusion of child protection issues in meetings. Improvements are required in CP advocacy and in consultations with affected populations on CP programme design and monitoring. Support to CPWGs requires strengthening, as does collaboration with other clusters.

Key Challenges

For General Protection, legal aid partners faced challenges around the provision of legal assistance or counselling on documentation, detention and family law for IDPs and returnees. In particular, access to documentation is restricted in certain areas of displacement, e.g. some IDP camps in central and southern Iraq where movement restrictions are in place, and for particular groups, e.g. persons with perceived affiliations to extremists. Complex cases, which require issuance of foundational documents or resolution of family law matters before other documents can be issued, contribute to lengthy delays in closure of cases.

Lack of assessments in some areas continues to be a challenge to track emerging GBV needs and service gaps. Cultural norms and stigma contributed to low reporting of GBV cases, coupled with movement restrictions, especially among survivors perceived to be affiliated to ISIL, contributed to lower than expected access to GBV and PSS services. Underfunding posed a major challenge for GBV actors across multiple governorates, which ultimately limited GBV programme implementation.

CPSC faces significant challenges in relation to children and their parents who have perceived affiliations with ISIL. These children are facing official and community-level barriers to humanitarian assistance and realization of their human rights.

The national legal framework only allows Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and Iraqi Civil Defence to conduct explosive hazard survey and clearance inside civilian houses. Therefore, no humanitarian mine action organizations can do clearance of private houses. There is an urgent need to expedite clearance of private houses to prevent lethal accidents among civilians who have returned to their homes in affected areas, and to encourage more people to safely return.

Property restitution remains a challenge due to delayed restoration of courts in newly accessible areas, lack of access to property ownership documentation, the high cost of applying and HLP compensation sub-committees not fully functioning in remote districts, impeding the submission of compensation claims. Government budgetary constraints continue to delay the payment of recognized compensation claims. An advocacy note on property compensation has been published by HLPSC. There are significant barriers for women to have their HLP rights recognized.

Action to be taken

The NPC will continue to support the HC and HCT to engage in high-level advocacy with the Government of Iraq, through strengthened data collection and analysis, to address the challenges faced by individuals with perceived affiliations with ISIL. On access to civil documentation, UNHCR has engaged the Civil Status Directorates to provide mobile civil registration and documentation services in some IDP camps, and this service will be expanded to additional governorates. Advocacy to address concerns stemming from the presence of armed military and security actors in some camps will be continued, based on data collected through the Civilian Character of Camps matrix. Capacity building on PSS, particularly in central and southern Iraq will be scaled up. Pending funding, scaling up of general protection services in under-served areas in specific districts of Al-Anbar, Baghdad, Salah Al-Din and Nineawa is needed.

With funding, GBVSC will scale up GBV programmes, strengthen community engagement on GBV reporting, and support capacity development and GBV mainstreaming across the humanitarian response, including referrals to livelihoods interventions, and multi-sector services. Detailed GBV assessments, which would bring attention to under-served areas, will be promoted.

Legal partners will continue to document the successes and challenges for securing legal documentation for children, and will undertake joint advocacy to promote harmonized administrative and legal procedures for issuance of civil documentation. The CPSC will strengthen coordination with education partners to promote capacity building initiatives of school-based social workforce and teachers of the Directorate of Education and Ministry of Education. The Sub-Cluster will prioritize interventions in under-served geographic areas, in particular Duhok, northern Nineawa and Salah Al-Din.

MASC will continue to advocate with the Directorate of Mine Action (DMA) for humanitarian mine action organizations to carry out mine clearance in residential areas and private houses. HLPSC will train humanitarian and government staff on HLP issues. The sub-cluster will work closely with the SNFI Cluster to effectively operationalize HLP due diligence and ensure tenure security throughout shelter interventions. It will also work with shelter partners to increase women’s inclusion and recognition of their HLP rights. The sub-cluster will continue to address the issue of underfunding for HLP specialised legal partners across Iraq.
PROGRESS TOWARDS CLUSTER OBJECTIVES AND KEY PRIORITIES

Cluster Objective 1: Increase access to quality formal and non-formal learning opportunities for children in areas of displacement and areas of return which allow for transition into recognized educational pathways

The cluster has provided access to education for approximately 160,000 children out of a target of 400,000. Some 375 children received support through cash assistance out of a target of 21,000 children. Cash assistance supports children in school attendance due to costs associated with education, including fees, learning materials and travel. Cluster partners supported 107,256 children (37 per cent of the target) with teaching and learning materials out of a targeted 285,346 children. Progress was slowed down by the poor coverage of teachers in areas of displacement and return and issues around incentivizing volunteer teachers. This made it difficult for out-of-school children to access quality education.

Cluster Objective 2: Schools and learning environments are protective and responsive to the needs of conflict-affected children, youth and adolescents

2,244 teachers received various trainings which should potentially lead to a strengthened learning environment. Approximately 24,000 children received psychosocial support in schools and 266 cases have been referred to child protection partners for individualized case management.

Cluster Objective 3: Strengthen the capacity of the education system to plan and deliver a timely, appropriate and evidence-based education response

Cluster partners trained 43 Department of Education personnel on policy, planning and sector coordination. About 165 schools have functioning management structures and 70 schools have disaster risk reduction plans in place.

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<tr>
<td>Coordinator Co-Facilitator</td>
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<tr>
<td>People Targeted</td>
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<td>People Covered</td>
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FUNDING

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Requested</th>
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<th>Percent Funded</th>
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<tr>
<td>35.5m</td>
<td>9,3m</td>
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IHF: 2,5m
Key priorities and recommendations for the way forward

The cluster’s key priority is to ensure that conflict-affected children have access to education in the second half of the year. Stronger advocacy with the Ministries of Education in federal Iraq and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq is required to solve the teacher distribution and payment of incentives challenges. The strategy of working with child protection partners in offering structured psychosocial support is yielding positive results and should therefore continue. However, better guidance on reporting needs to be provided to partners to reduce double counting of education and child protection beneficiaries.

Under cluster objective 3, the cluster had proposed working with governorate structures and Directorates of Education in the HRP. However, partners have demonstrated greater effectiveness in implementing systems strengthening in individual schools. The national cluster and the sub-national coordination mechanisms should continue to provide training and strengthen engagement with members and external stakeholders. The cluster should consider revising indicators to reflect this shift.

Severity Update

The Education Cluster has responded in line with the severity ranking and prioritization identified in the HNO. However, in Al-Anbar, Al-Qa‘im District should be prioritized in terms of service delivery particularly for the returning population, in line with Returns Working Group assessment findings.

Key Gaps

- 240,000 children (60 per cent of the target) in IDP settlements and areas of return don’t have access to quality and inclusive formal and non-formal education, especially secondary schools. This is due to inadequate infrastructure, limited qualified teaching staff, undocumented children who face barriers to access education (particularly children with perceived affiliations to ISIL), inadequate teaching and learning materials, poorly structured non-formal education, and psychosocial impact of the conflict on both teachers and learners affecting participation.
  - More than 3,900 teachers (64 per cent of the target) have not been trained on provision of education in emergencies.
  - Qualified and salaried teachers need to replace the current system of incentives-supported volunteer teachers. Incentives payments supported 2,611 teachers (1,312 of them in camps), in 166 schools (39 of them in IDP camps). Cash assistance for vulnerable children has been impacted due to funding constraints.

Cluster Performance

The cluster has seven sub-national coordination mechanisms which support service delivery in Al-Anbar, Salah Al-Din, Ninewa, Duhok, Erbil, Kirkuk and Sulaymaniyah. The Erbil sub-national cluster will transition into a working group because IDPs remaining in Erbil are likely require local integration solutions with a transitional and development, rather than humanitarian, focus. An education working group will be formed in Al-Basrah, which is prone to seasonal disasters including flooding and disease outbreaks, causing disruptions to education. The sub-national focal points participate in inter-cluster coordination platforms and coordinate with the MoE and respective DoEs in each location, including development of emergency preparedness and contingency plans in governorate education sector plans, with varying degrees of success. In Salah Al-Din, for example, the sub-national cluster has been invited to join the planning committee to develop the sector plan.

The cluster developed a comprehensive and detailed education strategy which supports the whole education humanitarian response for both HRP and non HRP partners. Cluster coordination performance monitoring will be conducted in the second half of the year.

Key Challenges

- Education needs far outweigh the capacity of the humanitarian education actors. For instance, many schools require complete reconstruction and demining and not the light rehabilitation that humanitarian actors can provide. Urgent and major investment by the government and development partners is needed.
  - Some partners are experiencing funding shortfalls impacting the response in IDP camps in Ninewa, potentially affecting more than 4,000 children.
  - Returnee education can be logistically difficult as some IDPs return to their villages in small, disjointed groups, making it difficult for partners to provide education services for each student in need, as this is not cost effective.

Action to be taken

- The cluster has developed a position paper on the payment of incentives. This paper offers alternative solutions to the payment of incentives by partners and encourages the Ministries of Education to cover the gap. The MoE is requested to provide adequate numbers of teachers with even distribution and also provide salaries. This will enable partners, together with the DoEs to focus more on interventions that improve the quality of teaching and learning.
  - As per the new Education Cluster strategy, the cluster will work with the MoEs and DoEs to address education gaps in targeted areas, particularly in areas where a high number of children are out of school.
Cluster Objective 1: Continue to improve, upgrade and sustain quality and standards of water and sanitation services, and provide an enabling environment for good hygiene practices in protracted displacement (in camps).

Partners assisted 634,670 people with improved WASH services through ongoing maintenance of WASH facilities in prioritized camps such as Jad’ah, Haj Ali and As Salamyiah Nimrud, among others. Water and sanitation facilities in these camps were upgraded to the required cluster standards. Regular water quality monitoring was carried out at source, during transport and in households. Challenges were experienced in meeting the standard of 0.2mg/L of free residual chlorine and below 5NTU turbidity. This was due to high amount of rainfall followed by floods that caused a hike in turbidity levels. In nine camps, sanitation coverage is still not meeting the cluster minimum standards e.g. a 1:20 facility-user ratio with facilities. This is partly due to funding limitation and poor original design. The cluster continued to advocate for improved sanitation coverage and standards through upgrades and installation of additional sanitation facilities.

Cluster Objective 2: Continue to restore basic water and sanitation services and support good hygiene practices for highly vulnerable populations in areas of return and host communities, and facilitate hand over of care and maintenance of water and sanitation facilities to local authorities.

Basic water and sanitation services were restored in areas of return through limited rehabilitation of dysfunctional water and sanitation facilities (e.g. water stations, water treatment plants) and short-term water trucking. As a result, 132,278 returnees in 78 locations were reached with this intervention.

Cluster Objective 3: Provide safe and accessible emergency water and sanitation services and support good hygiene practices for highly vulnerable populations in any new displacement areas, high risk areas and during shocks.

The WASH Cluster provided life-saving WASH assistance to about 306,000 people affected by floods in and out of camps areas. This included the worst-affected governorates of Salah Al-Din, Al-Basrah, Al-Muthanna and Wassit. Emergency WASH services included emergency water supply, temporary sanitation facilities, hygiene items and contextually-appropriate hygiene awareness to mitigate increased public health risks. Hygiene promotion activities focusing on cholera prevention through personal and household hygiene reached 172,810 IDPs in 83 formal camps and informal sites as well as 16 off-camp locations. Additionally, 133,743

WASH

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<th>Coordinator Co-Coordinator</th>
<th>Peter LUKWIYA, UNICEF</th>
<th>Ammar ORAKZAI, NCA</th>
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IHF: $5.1m
individuals benefited from hygiene kits distributed to complement hygiene messages. Overall, in terms of hygiene interventions, 20 per cent per cent of the cluster target was reached. As result of intensive hygiene promotion, waterborne diseases have so far been controlled in and out of camps locations.

**Cluster Objective 4: Promote sustainable and cost-effective water and sanitation services including community focused hygiene promotion in and out-of-camps locations.**

The WASH Cluster advocated sustainable and cost-effective WASH interventions. These interventions which include low cost community managed interventions, considered cross-cutting issues such as reducing instances of GBV, and assuring accessibility for the elderly and persons living with disabilities. The cluster has reached 305,119 people under this objective with sustainable WASH interventions. Capacity building activities were conducted for 222 people from the local authorities to take over operation and maintenance of water and sanitation facilities and promoting the use of cash. In some camps with poor quality facilities, latrines for disabled children were built. Options for wastewater treatment are being piloted in out-of-camp locations and, if successful, can be replicated in camps to solve wastewater management problems.

**Key priorities and recommendations for the way forward**

The last quarter of the year has a window period for a potential cholera outbreak. The WASH Cluster has prioritized preparedness actions for cholera and acute watery diarrhoea outbreaks. The cluster, together with the Health Cluster, shall continue to engage partners, including local authorities, to ensure safe water supply and appropriate hygiene promotion activities for IDPs, returnees and host communities. The cluster will advocate longer-term improvements of water and sanitation facilities, while strengthening the capacity of local authorities to take ownership of facilities through regular operation and maintenance. Emphasis shall continue to be on linking humanitarian WASH interventions with recovery, reconstruction and development partners, particularly in areas of return.

**CHANGES IN CONTEXT**

Access to basic WASH services is a key requirement for people returning to their areas of origin. The need for full rehabilitation and extension of public water supply systems is a priority which is constrained by funding and linkages to development partners. Sudden heavy rains from January to April resulted in flood water mixing with the surface water of rivers and lakes. These water sources are used to supply water to camps in Ninewa Governorate and in out-of-camp locations, especially in southern governorates previously hit with drought such as in Al-Basrah and Al-Muthanna. This unexpected shift in water requirements temporarily redirected the focus away from camps to areas which were not anticipated or prioritized in the HRP.

**Severity Update**

Southern governorates including Al-Basrah, Wassit, Al-Muthanna and Thi Qar were affected by heavy rain. However, lack of assessment data meant that there was no update to WASH severity, people in need of WASH assistance or revision of targets. The WASH Cluster is planning a comprehensive, nationwide assessment for August/September to assess the needs and determine the severity status of these governorates.

**Key Gaps**

- Approximately 85 per cent of the target population has not been reached with hygiene services and activities.
- While most in-camp populations have been reached with WASH activities, only 17 per cent of the out-of-camp target population has been reached with water activities and 7 per cent with sanitation assistance.

**Cluster Performance**

The cluster will undertake Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring in July 2019. The WASH Cluster has strengthened its coordination team capacity by supporting existing technical working groups and sub-national coordination mechanisms. The cluster also established an Al-Basrah sub-national forum. Inter-cluster coordination with CCCM, Education and Health Clusters has improved. As part of cholera preparedness activities, the WASH Cluster, in close collaboration with the Health Cluster, MoH and other stakeholders, updated the 2019 cholera preparedness and response plan.

Feedback and observations on the cluster’s performance so far suggest that engagement of NGOs, government and local authorities is important as it enhances shared leadership and coordination capacities. There is a need to better link humanitarian response with recovery and development programmes. Therefore, the WASH Cluster aims to improve its performance through (i) development or adoption of guidance on best practices in humanitarian coordination for shared leadership, (ii) building capacity for national NGOs and government counterparts, (iii) identification and promotion of new partnerships, and (iv) engagement with OCHA, government and the cluster lead agency on deactivating the cluster and transitioning to sector coordination.

**Key Challenges**

- The flash floods of March and April necessitated additional resources to install water treatment units in affected
Low funding is impacting WASH Cluster partners’ ability to provide WASH services in many areas to meet cluster standards in camps. Limited funding for water supply infrastructure in out-of-camp areas is also creating a gap meeting water needs in those target locations.

Continued lack of clarity and predictability around camp closures and consolidations is restricting WASH improvements to meet technical standards.

**Action to be taken**

- The WASH Cluster will continue mapping needs and gaps in priority locations.
- The cluster will advocate in support of integrated water resource management practices to manage water resources impacted by drought and/or water wastage.
- Conduct a nationwide detailed WASH assessment covering 95 districts in 17 governorates.
PART II: FOOD SECURITY

PROGRESS TOWARDS CLUSTER OBJECTIVES

Cluster Objective 1: Provide emergency food assistance to displaced families living in camps and sub-standard accommodation

MoMD became the main food assistance distributing actor inside IDP camps, with cluster members supplementing the MoDM ration. An average of 424,000 beneficiaries per cycle (92 per cent of the target) were covered with in-kind and cash-based assistance in the camps.

Cluster Objective 2: Provide agricultural inputs or services to protect agricultural productive assets and help restore fragile livelihoods of returning or vulnerable families

The cluster provided short-term employment through cash-for-work (CFW) programming to rehabilitate damaged agriculture infrastructure in rural returnee areas and distribution of agricultural inputs. Through CFW activities, a total of 16,500 beneficiaries (9 per cent of the target) were reached in priority governorates of Diyala and Ninewa.

Cluster Objective 3: Improve quality of the response based on evidence, capacity building and strong coordination with national stakeholders

The cluster produced a landscape analysis for wheat flour fortification, aiming to inform stakeholders and decision makers to reintroduce fortification to improve nutrition outcomes.

Key priorities and recommendations

Improved data collection and information management on agricultural interventions and food production is needed, including cash and rehabilitation, to reduce gaps and duplication with partners, including government programmes. This database should run in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Water Resources.

The cluster should continue functioning in its current structure. Adapting to the new way of working, the cluster is seeking greater integration of humanitarian and development actors working together towards long-term solutions by reducing need, risk and vulnerability. The cluster will focus on increasing resilience and livelihood activities, through provision or agricultural inputs in

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<th>Las Rashid, WFP</th>
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TARGET

RESPONSE

Priority district

Priority district
areas with high number of returnees.

**CHANGES IN CONTEXT**

WFP conducted a population screening and targeting exercise inside IDP camps. As a result of this exercise, 53,781 (14 per cent of the targeted population) people have been excluded from food assistance due to not meeting vulnerability criteria, or due to updates to population figures. Most of these people were not present in the camps, with 57 per cent of people on distribution lists not found to be in the camps. From July, WFP will support 370,310 beneficiaries inside the IDP camps with regular food distribution.

**Severity Update**

Due to the recent burning of an estimated 40,000 dunam of crop fields, partners are targeting affected farmers and their families with distribution of wheat seeds and fertilizers to 1,600 smallholders, and seasonal vegetable seeds will be distributed to 800 vulnerable farmers prior to the wheat season in October.

**Key Gaps**

- Of approximately 170,000 targeted beneficiaries in priority governorates of Diyala and Ninewa, 91 per cent of them are not reached. This is due to low funding for the cluster relative to requirements as per the HRP.

**Cluster Performance**

The cluster has a strong two-way information flow with the HC and HCT. Cluster inputs to response planning were developed together with partners. The cluster maintains an IDP complaints and feedback mechanism with through IIC Call Centre with bi-weekly follow-up on complaints and feedback. Cluster partners share accountability messages to beneficiaries through focus group discussions and the IIC Call Centre. The cluster has established regular communication and coordination channels with MoMD as MoMD is the main food-distributing actor inside the IDP camps.

**Key Challenges**

- HRP funding coverage for the cluster was nine per cent as of May. This has caused delay in implementation of some of projects and has affected the figures of people reached. Due to funding gaps, WFP’s food assistance was changed from a monthly distribution to a six-week cycle. However, with support from the government, WFP returned to a four-week distribution cycle inside formal IDP camps. Despite this arrangement, MoMD’s unpredictable distribution planning inside some camps, together with reduction in WFP-led distributions, has caused food assistance gaps and unmet needs.

**Action to be taken**

- Providing capacity building workshops for the local and national partners on project proposal, reporting and coordination, in order to improve national stakeholders’ response and reporting capacity.
- Enhance communication with cluster lead agencies and partners to address issues and discrepancies in Financial Tracking Service reporting and funding pipelines.
- Closer coordination and collaboration with the Emergency Livelihoods Cluster, with the aim of meeting the needs of out-of-camp IDPs through resilience and livelihood solutions.
Cluster Objective 1: Continue to provide quality essential health care services, including mental health and psychosocial support services, physical rehabilitation and management of GBV survivors, targeting IDPs and highly vulnerable persons

Partners reached 526,470 individuals with primary health care (PHC) services, including reproductive health services for 290,369 women. In addition, a continuous supply of essential medicines, emergency kits and medical supplies was sustained to the partners supporting these services in and out of camps. A total of 1,014 individuals received physical rehabilitation services such as prosthetics and assistive devices.

Cluster Objective 2: Strengthen the national capacity in crisis-affected areas and continue to advocate for handover of humanitarian health service-delivery

More than 367,000 individuals were reached with health awareness messages in the affected governorates.

Cluster Objective 3: Monitor, mitigate and manage common communicable diseases through ensuring the continuity of an effective early warning and response mechanism and health awareness

A total of 69,923 children were vaccinated through routine immunization against polio and measles and were provided with Vitamin A supplements.

Key priorities and recommendations

Key priorities remain capacity building of Department of Health (DoH) staff, providing short term support to health facilities in areas where IDPs reside (out of camps) and sustaining support to the camps with sizeable populations until they are consolidated or closed. Handing over services to the DoH is a priority. This can only be done through a gradual phase-out, while developing their capacity. Most DoHs of priority governorates have limited budgets and human resource capacity to support IDP camps presently.
**Severity Update**

Almost half a million people remain displaced in camps and informal settlements in seven conflict-affected governorates, who continue to be in need of essential services, including basic PHC services. There is a growing need to expand provision of physical rehabilitation of individuals who have lost limbs, as well as mental health and psychological services (including GBV services to survivors) to people who are traumatized.

**Key Gaps**

There are still 1,167,615 individuals not reached with essential PHC services, including nearly 142,000 women of child-bearing age yet receive to reproductive health services and more than 7,000 children in camps yet to be immunized for the first time. The majority of these people are in the eight priority governorates targeted under the HRP.

**Cluster Performance**

The second phase of the Quality of Care (QoC) assessment was conducted in December 2018. The results were compared with the first phase (May 2018) for 46 camps. It was found that in 48 per cent of the camps, PHC centres (PHCC) improved their service provision, 36 per cent of the camps PHCCs have shown no change and 16 per cent of PHCCs in camps have shown a decline in service provision. The decline in services were apparent in camps that were handed over to the DoH, showing a need to gradually phase out while capacity building of the DoH.

**Key Challenges**

- Given the gaps in funding, cluster members are not expected the targeted population and are therefore prioritizing camps with larger populations. Despite the donor focus shifting from emergency response to longer-term interventions, humanitarian needs continue. DoHs have stated clearly that they are unable to cover services in camps due to budgetary and human resource constraints. This is putting a strain on funding available for implementation of health interventions within the cluster.

- Lack of harmonization between development and humanitarian actors results in inefficiencies in improving the overall health care of Iraqis.

- There is a continuous threat of potential outbreaks of food-, water- and vector-borne communicable diseases, particularly in the south of the country, where the quality of water is inadequate, as well as nationally during the rainy season. Although capacity building activities are ongoing, the national communicable disease preparedness, surveillance and rapid response mechanisms are not adequate to address outbreaks, should they occur. The cluster has been working with WASH partners and government authorities to develop cholera and acute watery diarrhoea preparedness plans.

**Action to be taken**

- Improve coordination between UNDP and health partners under the Funding Facility for Stabilization (FFS) programme where rehabilitation of hospitals and major PHCCs in target governorates can be referred. Rehabilitation of health facilities and supply of medical equipment need to adhere to MoH/WHO guidelines.
Cluster Objective 1: Facilitate and coordinate the provision of multi-sectoral interventions and conduct site risk reduction activities to ensure a safe and dignified environment for internally displaced people in formal and informal sites, including for newly and secondary displaced.

CCCM partners have provided 455,607 individuals with humanitarian assistance in 97 formal camps in Iraq. Large scale infrastructure maintenance and improvement activities and services were conducted in 69 formal camps have been carried out in Ninewa, Dahuk, Diyala, Erbil, Salah Al-Din, Sulaymaniyah, Kirkuk, Anbar, and Baghdad governorates. Partners conducted regular data collection and assessments, including using the CCCM Cluster Formal Site Monitoring Tool for the systematic identification of gaps and priorities across camps. CCCM partners have reached 66,315 individuals in 56 informal sites, collective centers, and surrounding host communities across Iraq. Partners complete regular risk reduction activities in both formal and informal sites, including safety audits and assessments to identify risks, infrastructure work to address major issues, and capacity building and awareness for IDPs including topics such as first aid and fire safety.

Cluster Objective 2: Cluster Objective 2: Empower the affected population and local actors to prepare, maintain, and coordinate CCCM activities

CCCM Partners are supporting the affected population, local actors and the government of Iraq with capacity building initiatives to increase self reliance and capacity to participate in camp coordination and management. Government counterparts in 79 formal camps have been directly participating or leading in camp coordination and management activities with CCCM partners, while 20 formal camps have ongoing capacity development projects. Community governance structures in 51 camps were supported. Programming to promote self reliance for affected populations has been carried out in 66 camps. Funding gaps severely hamper CCCM partners’ ability to contribute to minimizing dependency of IDPs on external aid.

Cluster Objective 3: Facilitate sustainability of return and support to affected populations

Community Resource Centres (CRC) continue to be a primary modality through which partners support returnees and IDPs
living in urban centers. CRCs support the Government in establishing and reinforcing coordination and service delivery mechanisms to facilitate safe, voluntary, non-discriminatory, and sustainable returns and socio-economic reintegration of mixed populations of affected communities. Twelve CRCs welcomed 22,405 individual visitors in the prioritized governorates of Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Salah al-Din.

**CHANGES IN CONTEXT**

The most important change in context for IDPs living in formal and informal sites in Iraq has been stronger than anticipated pressure exerted by authorities for IDPs to return to areas of origin or for IDP hosting sites to close. Pursuant to an order of the Iraq Council of Ministers in February 2018, camp consolidations and closures must be agreed by Governorate Returns Committees (GRC). However, IDPs in governorates including Salah al-Din, Baghdad, and Anbar, have experienced increasing pressure from local authorities outside the GRC framework, to return or vacate camps. In locations such as Anbar and Salah al-Din, this pressure has manifested in the form of confiscated IDs, intimidation from armed actors, shaming and harassment of IDPs, and threats of revoked security clearances. This pressure persists despite clear evidence from CCCM Cluster intentions survey data showing that the majority of IDPs do not intend to return in 2019 citing still unsolved obstacles to return. In response to these threats, CCCM Cluster partners have and will continue to monitor and report on these situations. They will advocate through established coordination mechanisms on behalf of the affected populations for a responsible camp closure and consolidation strategy, and for voluntary, safe, and dignified returns in line with the Iraq Principled Returns Framework.

**Key Gaps**

- CCCM partners reached 95 per cent of the cluster's target population in camps. However, funding gaps mean that fewer resources are being stretched across a still large in-camp population, leading to challenges in maintaining minimum standards across all sites.

- Coverage of out-of-camp populations has been limited. Although over 90 per cent of the cluster's target population was reached with some form of assistance, there are gaps in services which ensure dignified and safe living environments in informal sites.

- Substantially fewer CRCs were established 2019 than originally planned, due to a lack of funding has limited CCCM Cluster's ability to actively support sustainable returns and durable solutions in line with its 2019 HRP cluster strategy. In the first five months of 2019 Partners were only able to reach 11 per cent of the targeted returnee and host population.

**Cluster Performance**

CCCM Cluster has released products including: the Iraq IDP Camp Directory, including camp profiles which provide detailed overviews of conditions in Iraq IDP camps; the results of Formal Site Monitoring Tool exercise, which collects data on gaps and conditions in formal IDP camps; Intentions Survey results for formal and informal camps and sites; and regular publication of the Camp Population Flow which tracks populations in formal IDP camps in Iraq. The Strategic Advisory Group is convened every six weeks to discuss and guide strategic decision making. CCCM Cluster will complete a cluster functional review at the end of 2019.

CCCM cluster coordination and CCCM partners played an active role in advocating for the rights and safety of IDPs. As part of this, the Cluster introduced tools for reporting militarization of and violations in camps and sites; continued development and updating of guidance on camp consolidation and closure; active participation in GRCs; and monitoring of and advocacy on principled and responsible camp consolidations and closures. The Cluster supported the development of the Operational Plan for Iraqis’ returns from Syria.

**Key Challenges**

- Persistent needs and funding shortfalls will continue to compel CCCM partners to stretch reduced resources in order to reach a large remaining target population. Funding gaps severely limit partner capacity including by limiting staffing numbers, reducing resources that would allow for substantial risk reduction activities beyond emergency work, reducing the number of underserved collective centers that partners are able to reach, and capping the amount of infrastructure maintenance and upgrades that can be completed in deteriorating camps and sites. If the funding gap is not reduced, partners will face significant challenges to maintaining minimum service levels and standards.

- Increasing pressure on IDPs to return combined with lagging support in return areas and for alternative durable solution, leaves IDPs at risk of forced and premature returns and secondary displacement. CCCM Cluster data show that 61 per cent of IDPs surveyed plan to remain in their current area of displacement. Despite this, government efforts to close camps and collective centers to encourage returns are ongoing.

**Action to be taken**

- Advocate with national and local government to stop forced returns and uncoordinated and unprincipled camp closures and evictions. This should be combined with intensified efforts to coordinate between humanitarian and development actors to rapidly remove obstacles to return and alternative durable solutions for IDPs.

- Advocate with national and local government to support alternative durable solutions such as integration and relocation for in and out of camp IDP populations who are unable or unwilling to return.
PART II: MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

PROGRESS TOWARDS CLUSTER OBJECTIVES

Cluster Objective 1: Provide multi-purpose cash assistance to vulnerable households affected by conflict and to extremely vulnerable households affected by a shock generating humanitarian needs that cannot be covered by existing national services

The Cash Working Group (CWG) has nine partners who reached 134,574 individuals (22,429 households) with multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA), 88 per cent of which were in the 51 districts prioritized for MPCA in the HRP. The majority of the response focused on Al-Mosul in Ninezwa Governorate (5,500 households), Beiji in Salah Al-Din Governorate (3,700 households) and Al-Hawiga in Kirkuk Governorate (1,200 households). Some 56 per cent of distributions reached returnees, 37 per cent reached out-of-camp IDPs and seven per cent reached host communities.

Cluster Objective 2: Facilitate vulnerable households’ access to complementary and critical humanitarian and national services, including non-contributory social protection programmes

MPCA partners used the socio-economic vulnerability assessment tool (SEVAT) to determine socio-economic vulnerability of households by calculating per capita monthly predicted consumption. The SEVAT methodology aligns with the methodology used in government social protection mechanisms. Approximately 4,000 households have been assessed using the new tool. Extensive training on the use of SEVAT was conducted for partners in Duhok, Erbil, Al-Mosul, Kirkuk and Baghdad. SNFI partners are also using the tool to determine the overall caseload prior to applying sector-specific criteria. CWG and the SNFI Cluster jointly conducted additional training for partners in Erbil, Duhok and Baghdad. Utilization of the tool has allowed the CWG to collect data for a vulnerability map of the country, which would support advocacy efforts focussing on government social safety nets.

Severity Update

The CWG adjusted the poverty marker, used as a benchmark for providing MPCA, from 92,000 IQD per capita per month ($110 per month) to 110,000 IQD per capita per month ($133 per month). The review took place upon recommendation to align

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IHF: 3.3m
with the poverty marker used by WFP for in-camp food assistance and following discussions with the World Bank. While the official country poverty marker is 105,000 IQD ($127), this figure will be subject to revision in 2019. The cut-offs to determine the level of vulnerability, proxied by the predicted monthly per capita consumption, have been revised subsequently:

- Those living below 70,000 IQD monthly per capita consumption qualify as extremely vulnerable and are eligible for three months of MPCA transfers;
- Those living in the range of 70,000 IQD to 92,000 IQD monthly per capita consumption qualify as vulnerable and are eligible for two months of MPCA transfers;
- Those living in the range of 92,000 to 110,000 IQD monthly per capita consumption qualify as moderately vulnerable and are eligible for a one-off MPCA transfer.

Overall, SEVAT shows a 68 per cent eligibility rate among assessed households, with 25 per cent of the total eligible caseload qualifying for three months of transfers (extremely vulnerable), 38 per cent showing eligibility for two months of assistance (vulnerable), and approximately 37 per cent eligible for one month of assistance (moderately vulnerable).

Key Gaps

- 82 per cent of households (100,900 households) targeted with MPCA did not receive assistance. This may be attributable to funding gaps.
- 70 per cent of households (170,000 households) targeted with MPCA vulnerability assessments are not yet assessed.
- Coverage gaps remain in Al-Ramadi, Al-Hamdaniya, Heet and Al-Hawiga districts (extreme priority); Al-Falluja, Telafar, Tikrit, Khanaqin, Sinjar, Kirkuk districts (top priority); Tilkae, Zakho, Samarra, Akre (priority) and Al-Mosul and Al-Shikhan (moderate priority).

Cluster Performances

The CWG coordinates differently to regular clusters and sub-clusters in that it functions as both a custodian for MPCA in the HRP as well as a working group responsible for providing technical support to sector-specific cash-based interventions led by the clusters. The latter function has assumed a more visible role in 2019 given the increased availability of financial service providers and increasing use of cash as response modality across the sectors.

The CWG initiated the discourse on alignment with the governmental social protection programme. It requires a strict alignment of targeting methodologies to ensure the transition can be ultimately operationalized. The coordination of MPCA partners under the umbrella of the CWG ensures such required level of harmonization to inform further steps of the alignment processes. This evolving role of CWG triggered a reshape of its coordination structure. A Steering Committee (SC) was established to enhance CWG’s governance structure and ensure a broader representation. Non-MPCA and sectoral-cash partners’ membership to this SC ensured a broader technical expertise and representation of sectors. The CWG structure will be equipped with specific technical resources in the second half of 2019. Ultimately, to improve cash coordination in the field, dedicated human resources is required at sub-national level.

Key Challenges

- The CWG is leading the process of aligning humanitarian MPCA within the national social protection floor. This process is a part of a broader framework of durable solutions and responsible transition of humanitarian assistance. Therefore, there is a need to better define and empower coordination structures and processes that preside over all the workstreams involved in the process of transition.
- CWG’s strategy is anchored around the identification of the vulnerable households by using a socio-economic vulnerability approach. However, the Iraq context has taken on a protracted nature. This implies the need for longer term assistance for the extremely vulnerable. The current approach might be subject to a revision in the course of the second half of 2019 to respond to the protracted deprivation condition of the most vulnerable share of population.
- Public reporting shows 17 per cent funding for MCPA activities so far. However, a linear projection suggests that MPCA partners would have reached 40,000 households by August.

Action to be taken

- Conduct humanitarian vulnerability mapping across Iraq based on socio-economic vulnerability assessment data and share the mapping with humanitarian actors, NGOs, the World Bank, donors and national authorities.
- Revise the SEVAT, with a view to incorporating inputs from partners who have already deployed the tool.
- Continue fulfilling the technical functions of a CWG by engaging other clusters in the use of SEVAT, expanding technical involvement in supporting sector-specific cash programming, and developing cross-sectoral guidance notes for cash programming implementation.
EMERGENCY LIVELIHOODS

PROGRESS TOWARDS CLUSTER OBJECTIVES

Cluster Objective 1: Provide immediate access to income to highly vulnerable conflict-affected populations

IDPs, returnees and host communities to assist and facilitate safe returns and resettlement, and strengthen resilience: Activities predominantly supported durable solutions, including for 592 households (3,552 people) of returnees and IDPs in camps in Ninewa, Kirkuk, Diyala, Anbar and Salah Al-Din governorates. These activities focused on asset replacement, business skills training and the restoration of businesses. Immediate livelihoods activities, such as cash-for-work (CFW) programmes, have targeted vocational training participants linked to businesses targeted in HRP priority governorates. In areas where asset replacement has supported the re-establishment of small business activities, income potential has been low due to a prevailing lack of purchasing power in the broader community. These communities continue to need support to rehabilitate markets, which have a greater chance of securing funding for subsequent activities.

Continued dialogue with the Food Security Cluster (FSC) and Cash Working Group (CWG) have taken place in Al-Hawiga District in Kirkuk, to ensure complementary emergency livelihoods interventions. Strengthening of reliable incomes and access to stable markets will support emergency livelihoods activities in line with HRP targets. Dialogue with child protection and GBV sub-clusters has facilitated livelihoods support referrals in Anbar Governorate, for families with children at risk and GBV survivors.

Key priorities and recommendations

Areas of return demonstrating a high severity of need will continue to be a priority focus, aiming to revitalize local markets and bolstering value chains. Whilst asset replacement will be the focus of the cluster into the second half of 2019, improved private sector linkages and business skills training, will generate longer term livelihoods programming. This requires stronger linkages with development partners. The focus will remain on priority districts Sinjar and Telafar in Ninewa, Al-Hawiga in Kirkuk, Tooz Khurmato in Salah Al-Din, Al-Khalis in Diyala, and Ana, Al-Fallujah and Al-Ramadi in Anbar. The cluster will draft resilience indicators
together with FAO, WFP and other HRP partners. Priorities include continued inter-cluster response activity with FSC and CWG and capacity building of partners on cash-based programming and market-based approaches, in addition to geographic prioritization and vulnerability-based beneficiary selection. Durable solutions relating to livelihoods for people in camps, mainly in Kirkuk and Ninewa, will continue to be promoted.

Severity Update
Evidence from assessments demonstrates that Jalawla and Al-Saadiya sub-districts in Diyala Governorate should be included in the areas with high density and severity of needs.

Key Gaps
- 2,155 households (12,930 people) have not been reached with livelihoods support this year;
- 2,400 households (14,400 people) have been reached through IHF-supported projects.

Cluster Performance
A cluster performance review identified three strategic priorities:
1. Capacity building for cluster members on strategic livelihoods priorities;
2. Capacity building of civil society to strengthen engagement with public and private sectors to promote sustainable livelihoods;

Key Challenges
- Funding is a key challenge. Whilst stable and secure income-generating activities remain vital in encouraging returns and social cohesion, low funding for livelihoods programming has limited the Emergency Livelihoods Cluster in reaching a greater number of beneficiaries in areas of need. The short duration of livelihood activities under the current donor funding envelopes limits outcome level programming for partners, along with opportunities for piloting innovations such as savings schemes over longer-term 12-month cycles.
- Cultural norms render it difficult to enroll female IDPs in vocational training and apprenticeship programmes. This limits their ability to contribute to household income generation.
- Beneficiaries prefer to receive business grants rather than entering into vocational training or short-term employment opportunities, such as CFW, internships or apprenticeships, particularly when markets remain dysfunctional.

Action to be taken
- Monitoring of existing asset replacement and business-support grantees, to facilitate scaling up of business grants or referrals to new projects should be undertaken by partners, with a focus on private sector development.
- Improve linkages with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and vocational training centres to facilitate job placements and referrals, in a manner that is gender-sensitive.
- Engage the Global Early Recovery Cluster for technical guidance and resource mobilization.
- Increase coordination with CWG, FSC, child protection and GBV sub-clusters for complementarity and joint interventions such as training and referrals.
The objective of the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) consortium is to enhance government capacity to better cope with future emergencies by taking over responsibility for RRM deliveries. There has been limited progress, as the risk analysis and capacity assessment to determine feasibility of the RRM handover was initiated after the reporting period. As a result, none of the planned training events or workshops have been conducted for handover partners. If feasibility for handover to the government or other stakeholders is established in November 2019, once the consultant’s recommendations are released partners will undertake handover and capacity support in 2020. This process to engage a suitable consultant took longer than expected. It also remains imperative in 2019 that the RRM consortium continue to monitor emerging emergencies in Iraq and maintain preparedness and capacity to support people in need of assistance, including the Iraqis that may return from Syria.

In response to the floods in March/April 2019, RRM kits were provided to 4,134 flood-affected people in Maysan and Wasit governorates.

**CHANGES IN CONTEXT**

With the anticipated repatriation of approximately 31,000 Iraqis currently residing in camps in Syria, the RRM consortium would need to provide 31,000 Iraqi returnees with first line emergency assistance.

**Severity Update**

There are approximately estimated 31,000 Iraqis in Syria who may return to Iraq in 2019. In line with the HCT operational plan for these returnees, RRM preparedness has been built upon this analysis and includes rapid, emergency assistance at border crossings and screening sites.

**Key Gaps**

- The feasibility and capacity assessment must be undertaken as a first step to identify suitable handover partners. Subsequent to that, training can take place. None of the 50 planned training events or workshops to train 220 government officials on emergency response have taken place due to capacity assessment outcomes to guide the process not yet being available.

**Key Challenges**

- The main challenge in undertaking the capacity and feasibility assessment for RRM handover was identifying a suitably qualified and experienced expert to implement the process. A candidate has now been identified and has initiated work. This delay means that if feasible, actual handover and capacity building will not be possible in 2019.

- The RRM consortium partners also require additional funding on top of the HRP ($202,000) to either procure additional supplies and/or cover the costs transportation and distribution of supplies for Iraqis who may return from Syria. In the absence of this funding, the RRM consortium would be challenged to deliver the required first line support including provision of RRM kits (WASH items including water purification tablets, and food) at the border and transit sites.

**Action to be taken**

- Resourcing options for the operational response plan for Iraqis returning from Syria are being actively pursued by consortium members.

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1 Funding received for RRM, includes carry over from 2018. Support has been used to cover costs (supplies, staffing) to maintain minimum RRM response capacity (including for anticipated Al Hol returnees) and initiate the feasibility/handover assessments for the RRM.
PART II: COORDINATION AND COMMON SERVICES

COORDINATION AND COMMON SERVICES

PROGRESS TOWARDS CLUSTER OBJECTIVES

Cluster Objective 1: Facilitate a principled humanitarian response by ensuring that strategic decision-making processes and coordination mechanisms, as well as humanitarian financing, are guided by the Centrality of Protection

The Coordination and Common Services (CCS) sector supported over 170 organizations. Between January and June, the IDP Information Centre (IIC) handled 66,960 calls with a 92 per cent resolution rate to partners, but a 23 per cent resolution rate to other clusters. Information provided direct and two-way communication with affected communities. The CCS sector, led by OCHA, has supported the humanitarian programme cycle by developing and monitoring the HRP, coordinating assessments and generating information products to provide coordinated accountability, inform decision-making and mobilize humanitarian funding. OCHA has provided leadership of, funding through, and accountability of, the Iraq Humanitarian Fund through one standard and one reserve allocation, as well as project monitoring and project auditing. Inter-cluster coordination is led by OCHA at national and sub-national levels. OCHA also supports the Humanitarian Coordinator and Humanitarian Country Team to provide executive leadership on humanitarian policy and strategy and to allow for high-level advocacy on issues including access and human rights and follows these up at the sub-national level through General Coordination Meetings with UN and NGO partners.

Sector partners provided advocacy and technical guidance to the Humanitarian Country Team on access constraints, bureaucratic impediments, and other operational constraints. CCS partners such as IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) and REACH Initiative strengthened the quality of humanitarian analysis, including analysis related to protection risks. Sector members promoted inter-cluster approaches on gender, protection, AAP and durable solutions through training and programming.

Cluster Objective 2: Promote, coordinate and harmonize information management practices, needs and assessments across clusters and sectors including maintaining common data and information repositories, to produce analysis (needs, gaps, response) and advocacy grounded in evidence

The CCS sector tracked and mapped population movements. Sector members, including the DTM and REACH, shared and triangulated data and information among stakeholders and facilitated common needs assessments and analysis, and standardizing information management products. DTM conducted two rounds of master lists, two rounds of return index data, one thematic report on housing with return index data, two reports on protracted displacement, one study on integration, and one study on water-induced displacement in the southern districts. REACH Initiative conducted 12 assessments and produced 131 maps (55 stand-alone maps and 76 report maps). The NGO Coordination Committee for Iraq (NCCI), the umbrella body for NGOs, has produced 25 information management products.

Cluster Objective 3: Strengthen situational awareness, contribute to safety and security of humanitarian aid workers and activities, and advocate for enabling environment to facilitate humanitarian access and enhance operational impact, especially in remote and risk-prone areas

NCCI provided guidance and advisory services to NGOs, including nine Country Director meetings, two meetings dedicated to international staff work permits, one meeting on bureaucratic interference in NGO operations in Kirkuk, two JCMC-NCCI training sessions on the submission of access letters, one tax directorate technical training session, seven Human Resources/Admin Working group meetings, one meeting between JCC and NGOs, and over 480 bilateral advisory services provided to NGOs. NCCI has translated and analyzed 47 laws in English, Arabic and Kurdish. NCCI has also held regular meetings with Government of Iraq and Kurdistan Regional Government authorities. The Access Working Group, coordinated by OCHA, has held six meetings, mapped and analyzed access challenges and created an online access incident reporting tool. INSO provided alerts, mapping of security risks, the issuance of threat warnings and analysis. The International NGO Safety Organisation (INSO) has produced approximately 1,200 information products to support the humanitarian community, including NGOs and UN agencies.
alike, with timely security updates and analysis.

**CHANGES IN CONTEXT**

- New monthly reporting requirements on NGO activities and staff, issued by the JCMC, is having a burdensome impact on humanitarian organizations. Reports from partners indicate that lack of compliance with these reporting requirements is impacting on their ability to receive JCMC access letters for their staff.
- Instructions issued by military actors on preventing assistance by humanitarian actors to those with perceived affiliations or links to ISIL is creating additional operational challenges in the provision of impartial humanitarian assistance.

**Key Gaps:**

- Follow-up procedures for the IDP Information Centre and clusters needs to be strengthened to improve response rates and accountability to affected population.
- Sub-national inter-cluster coordination and focal point follow-up and field verification need to be strengthened. There also needs to be a stronger link between the sub-national and national ICCGs to provide field-based inputs to strategic decision-making.
- Partners such as DTM indicate that there are approximately 66 locations that remain inaccessible due to insecurity. These locations are mostly in Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah Al-Din. This provides an obstacle to obtaining reliable data to support strategic planning.
- Lack of data availability and mapping on developmental programming affected coordination of humanitarian development nexus.

**Cluster Performance:**

The CCS sector has not conducted a survey/cluster functional review but aims to conduct one by August.

**Key Challenges:**

- The CCS sector is approximately 19 per cent funded.
- The CCS sector needs to find innovative ways of providing better referral and feedback mechanisms, including through the IIC, and promoting strengthening of resolution rates and partner referrals and case closure rates.
- Access and other regulatory issues, including arbitrary demands being imposed by various authorities, continue to pose challenges to humanitarian partners. This often severely impacts operations and response, particularly in Ninewa, Kirkuk, Al-Anbar, and Salah Al-Din governorates.

- Security concerns in some locations in Kirkuk, Al-Anbar, Ninewa and Salah Al-Din are preventing humanitarian actors from accessing these locations.
- Lack of information sharing within agencies that operate in both humanitarian and development spheres.

**Action to be taken:**

- Strengthen coordination between the IIC, PSEA Network GBV Sub-Cluster and other clusters as relevant to ensure an adequate referral system is in place.
- Work with partners, including OCHA and the ICCG to strengthen coordination at the sub-national and local levels.
- Better link the Governorate Return Committee decisions with ICCG review and planning mechanisms at the governorate levels to monitor, support and amplify government and development actor returns actions.
- Ensure that assessments, mapping and analysis are evidence-driven to ensure a comprehensive understanding of needs, to support AAP and to provide impartial humanitarian assistance.
- Increase invitations for joint assessments and inter-agency missions to development partners.
This document is produced on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team and partners.

This document provides the Humanitarian Country Team’s shared understanding of the crisis, including the most pressing humanitarian needs, and reflects its joint humanitarian response planning.

The designation employed and the presentation of material on this report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Humanitarian Country Team and partners concerning the legal status of any country, territory.