

Iraq Crisis Response and Resilience Programme Annual Report 2016

United Nations Development Programme

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The humanitarian, security and development crisis in Iraq is ongoing, volatile and extreme. Since the Syrian war began about 250,000 refugees have crossed into Iraq, predominantly into the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), while the conflict with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has forced 3.3 million Iraqis to leave their homes. Nearly a third of the Iraqi population needs humanitarian aid and the military operation to liberate further ISIL controlled areas, including the city of Mosul, will increase that need in 2017.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is assisting both the crisis response and the recovery process and is seeking to secure people's hope for the future by building a resilience framework. To achieve this it established the **Iraq Crisis Response and Resilience Programme (ICRRP)**.

This 2016 annual report details the work, goals and achievements of the ICRRP, which has a five strand approach and focuses its work on a) improved crisis response, b) improved basic services, c) improved livelihoods, d) protection of the vulnerable groups, and e) social cohesion.

The programme is operational since 2014 with a total budget of US\$76.5 million between 2013-2016. ICRRP is working in the KRI, (Erbil, Dohuk, Sulaymaniyah) as well as in neighbouring Diyala, and some parts of Baghdad, Ninewah, Salah-al Din, Kirkuk, Basra, Najaf and Karbala Governorates.

The programme has an emphasis on gender and women's empowerment. Women and girls are particularly at risk with a high occurrence of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV), including rape and abduction, and many households are headed by women, either widows or single parents. In addition, ICRRP recognizes that women play an important role in promoting peace and reconciliation.

ICRRP's achievements have been made possible by the generous support of the Governments of Germany (through KfW), Japan, United Kingdom/Department for International Development (DFID); UNHCR, as well as the partnership and leadership of the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government. ICRRP's Project Board, comprising of donor partners and government counterparts, has provided strategic guidance and oversight support.



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ICRRP KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **60 projects** undertaken
- **Over 2.4 million people** benefit from improved basic services
- **37 infrastructure** projects completed
- **18,104 households** (40% headed by a woman) provided with livelihood support
- **7 legal aid centres and 3 mobile clinics** tackling gender based violence established in camps and outside camps
- **5,300 people** (90% female) received support for gender based violence
- **7,800 people** took part in dialogue sessions and community-based activities promoting social cohesion and reconciliation
- **1,900 people** benefited from peace education and participatory peace initiatives
- **National institutions strengthened** their ability to provide critical coordination support to crisis response operations

BACKGROUND

Since the beginning of the Syrian war in 2011 some 250,000 Syrians have fled into Iraq, mostly into the KRI, and since the emergence of ISIL in January 2014 some 3.3 million Iraqis have been forced to leave their homes for safety. Of the population of 33.8 million about 10 million Iraqis need humanitarian aid. As further areas, including Mosul, are liberated that humanitarian need grows and those communities require multi-dimensional support to recover.

GOVERNORATES OF IRAQ



Image 1: Map of Iraq

UNDP is leading the early recovery and resilience agenda in Iraq by working with, and supporting local governments to ensure access to basic services like water, electricity, education and health. UNDP supports central and local authorities responding to the crisis, particularly in areas where it is safe for displaced people to return home. UNDP seeks to support employment and create viable futures for those people.

UNDP also works to tackle gender based violence and foster social cohesion amongst diverse ethnic and religious communities by promoting conflict resolution tools.

1.2 IRAQ CRISIS RESPONSE AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMME

In response to the emergency UNDP developed ICRRP to help people restore and rebuild their lives and to enable communities to recover. The ICRRP programme, as part of the overall UNDP Iraq strategy, is focused on empowering resilience within people and communities. It adopts an integrated approach, through immediate and long term projects, targeting internally displaced people (IDPs), Syrian refugees and host communities and it has five core strands. These five strands are:

1. to **improve crisis response coordination**, processes and management;
2. to **improve local access to basic services** and institutional delivery and accountability for those services;
3. to **improve livelihood opportunities** particularly for communities with IDPs and refugees;
4. to **protect vulnerable communities**, specifically women and youth, who are at risk of SGBV;
5. to **strengthen social cohesion** and reconciliation through dialogue, peace education and capacity building of local communities.

The programme is operational since 2014 and had a total budget of US\$76.5 million between 2013-2016. ICRRP is working in the KRI, (Erbil, Dohuk, Sulaymaniyah) as well as in neighbouring Diyala, and some parts of Baghdad, Ninewah, Salah-al Din, Kirkuk, Basra, Najaf and Karbala regions.

ICRRP KEY RESULTS IN 2016



Image 2: ICRRP Key Results in 2016



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1.3 RESILIENCE

In the last ten years UNDP, along with other aid organizations, has begun using the concept of resilience as a goal in development projects. The concept has increasingly become part of the strategy for aid in response to the crisis prompted by the Syrian war. UNDP convened a series of consultations, both at country and regional levels, on resilience building. These led to a Resilience Development Forum in November 2015, where the “Dead Sea Resilience Agenda” was adopted by key humanitarian and development stakeholders. These included UN agencies, international financial institutions, donors, representatives of international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector alongside senior representatives of Governments in the immediate sub-region affected by the Syria crisis.

This agenda was based on the understanding that the international community needs to support the ability of people, households, communities and societies, in the region, to withstand and weather future shocks, to recover when affected, and to achieve a sustainable and positive future. The agenda emphasizes the need to reinforce, not replace, local capacities, to generate new and inclusive partnerships, including with the private sector, and to safeguard social cohesion. Resilience building prioritizes the dignity and self sufficiency of affected populations by targeting access to basic services, improving people’s ability to earn a living, and strengthening the community’s capacity for conflict resolution.

Resilience building in Iraq is about securing the conditions for long-term peace and stability while meeting pressing humanitarian needs. The scale of challenges in Iraq require a transformative approach to overcome political and institutional barriers and to turn this regional crisis into an opportunity with innovative partnership.

The concept of resilience rests on the ideal of *‘build back better’*, using the opportunity of restoration and recovery to shape a sustainable environment and enable a self-reliant community better equipped to manage future crises.

The key capacities in the resilience process are absorptive, adaptive, recovery, preventative and transformative.

Absorptive capacity: This is the ability of a system to prepare for, or prevent negative impacts, i.e. shocks, using predetermined coping responses to preserve and restore essential basic structures and functions. The examples of an absorptive capacity include a planned early harvest, opening access to cash saving and other informal community safety nets like delaying debt repayments.

Preventive capacity: This includes all actions taken to detect, contain and forecast shocks, or to minimize their impact on people, households and communities. It includes creating community-based early warning systems and mobilizing timely responses to alerts. A preventive capacity may be measured through the availability and efficiency of early warning mechanisms at community level, by the extent to which risks are observed and communicated, and whether those risks, and a resilience assessment, underpin all development planning and programming.

Adaptive capacity: This is the ability of a system to adjust or change its character and operation to meet potential future risks and to take advantage of emerging opportunities, so it can continue to function without significant qualification adjustment. The examples of an adaptive capacity include diversification of livelihoods, involving the private sector in delivering basic services and introducing drought resistant crops.

Recovery capacity: The recovery capacity is a set of actions designed, and implemented, to minimize the negative impact of shocks on people, households, communities and institutions to enable the quick resumption of critical functions affecting them. Recovery is measured by how structures and systems are 'built back better' and how opportunities, presented by the shocks, are used to make people and communities more resourceful and self-reliant. Recovery capacity may be measured through the speed and quality of recovery, the level of communal self-reliance and the degree of improvement in physical and social well-being after a crisis or shock.

Transformative capacity: This is the ability to create a fundamentally new system so that a crisis or shock will no longer have any impact. This can be necessary when ecological, economic or social structures make the existing system untenable. The examples of a transformative capacity include the introduction of conflict resolution mechanisms and policies, regulations and plans that create the enabling environment necessary for systemic change as well as actions to eradicate corruption and reinforce good governance.

RESILIENCE SCENARIO

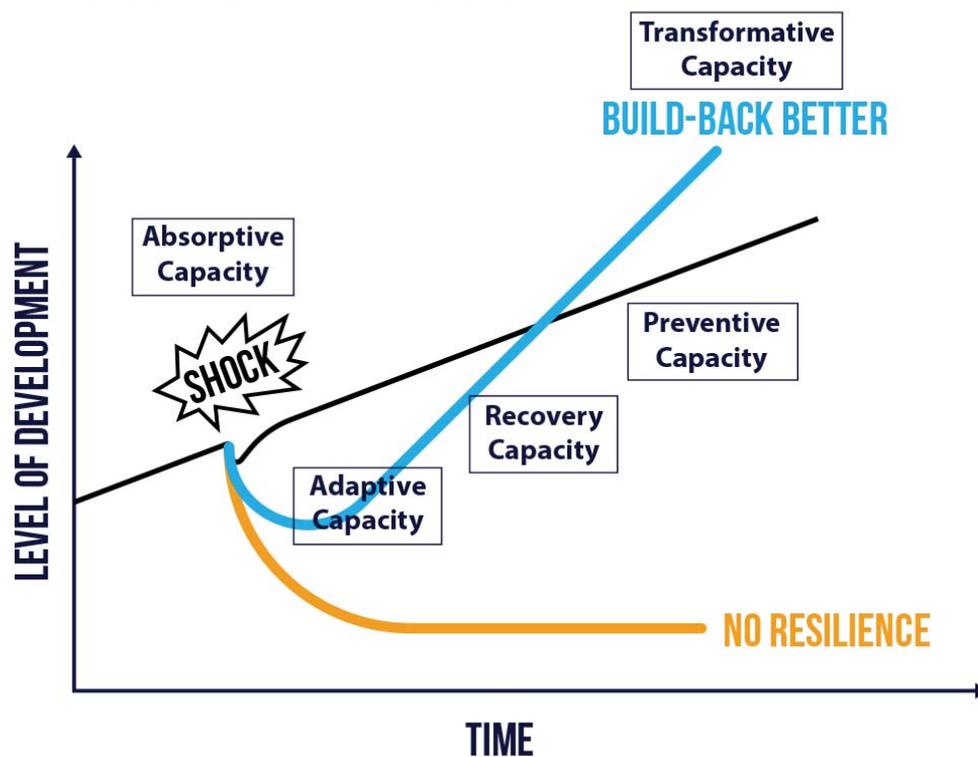


Image 3: Resilience Scenario: Build Back Better. Source: UNDP.

The objective of 'build back better' is to enable displaced people and refugees to become self-reliant and to support local authorities to develop self-sustaining services for those communities. Resilience is about people being able to stay and live in their own country with dignity.



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Resilience building enables people to restore their lives while strengthening the local and national structures that can secure peace and stability.



Cash for work in Basra has enabled the construction of a reverse osmosis drinking water plant in 5-miles camp. The plant is now producing clean water (250m³ per day), serving 130 IDP families in the camp, 350 families outside the camp and 5,087 families of the host community. More than 150 jobs were created through the plan construction.

Credit: CAOSFIR/2015

2. OVERVIEW OF ICRRP'S FIVE STRANDS

The ICRRP aims to complement the emergency and short-term humanitarian assistance provided by other partners in the crisis, through a multi dimensional integrated strategy focussed on medium to long-term sustainable development. The ICRRP targets areas that are not sufficiently covered by other humanitarian agencies and closely collaborates with local counterparts. Its five strands act to build a framework that supports recovery on a personal and social level while strengthening governance mechanisms for a coordinated crisis response, the delivery of basic services, the opportunity to work, the protection of vulnerable groups, especially women and children, as well as the restoration of social fabric.

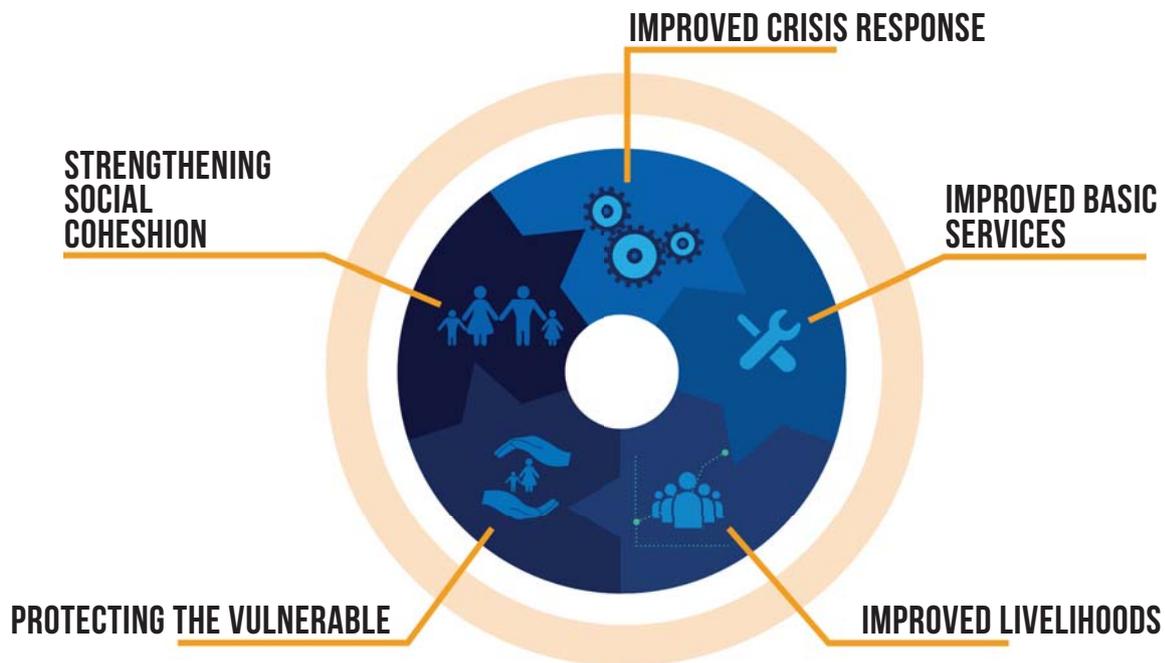


Image 4: ICRRP Five Strands

The programme has a strong gender equality and women’s empowerment focus. Over 1.6 million households are headed by a widow and women, both displaced and refugees, are at a high risk of abuse, including sexual violence. Only 14% of Iraqi women work in the labour force and many, particularly rural women, have had little educational opportunities. The role women play in promoting reconciliation is key to achieving sustainable peace.



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2.1 STRAND 1 - IMPROVED CRISIS RESPONSE

The crisis in Iraq is both volatile and extreme. While recovery projects are successfully underway in many regions new humanitarian emergencies arise as further regions are liberated.

ICRRP has strengthened communications and collaboration between the Government of Iraq's Joint Coordination and Monitoring Centre (JCMC) and the Kurdistan Regional Government's Joint Crisis Coordination Centre (JCC). These institutions operate as coordination hubs of two crisis response networks and jointly constitute the national crisis management system addressing the needs of Syrian refugees and displaced people.

"When resources are so scarce and when so much is at stake, coordination has to be stronger and targeting more effective"; Ms. Lise Grande, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General/Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Representative/Resident Coordinator.

With ICRRP's technical and financial support JCMC and JCC have :

- formulated a joint government humanitarian contingency plan in advance of the Mosul military operation to liberate the city;
- improved skills in crisis response coordination and management for over 110 officials;
- improved institutional structures and human capacity for effective response to man-made and natural crises.

SECTION 2.1



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JCC Council Meeting, Erbil. Credit: JCC/2016



JCMC Network Meeting, Baghdad. Credit: JCMC/2016



JCMC visit to Debaga Camp, Erbil. Credit: JCMC/2016



Participants discussing the promotion and facilitation of a unified government approach to crisis management and emergency response at JCC Conference, Erbil. Credit: UNDP Iraq/2016



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2.2 STRAND 2 - IMPROVED BASIC SERVICES

The first step to recovery, after a crisis, is ensuring people have access to basic services like water, electricity, health, education, sewerage and roads.

The pressure on Iraqi regions that are hosting both internally displaced people and refugees is considerable. To respond to this, ICRRP has worked to support local authorities delivering services that are fundamental to daily life.

Over 2,400,000 people in five governorates (Dohuk, Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, Baghdad and Ninewah) have benefited from improved basic services. A total of 37 infrastructural projects are completed with strong ownership by government authorities and a further 38 projects are ongoing in newly liberated areas. An additional five projects are ongoing and seven more are in development in the KRI and Diyala.

ICRRP also supported the Governorates of Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah to conduct Resilience Planning Workshops in partnership with UN agencies, NGOs and academia. The workshops helped the Governorates plan resilience building projects for IDPs, refugees and host communities in core areas such as infrastructure, health, education, livelihoods and social cohesion.

IMPROVED BASIC SERVICES

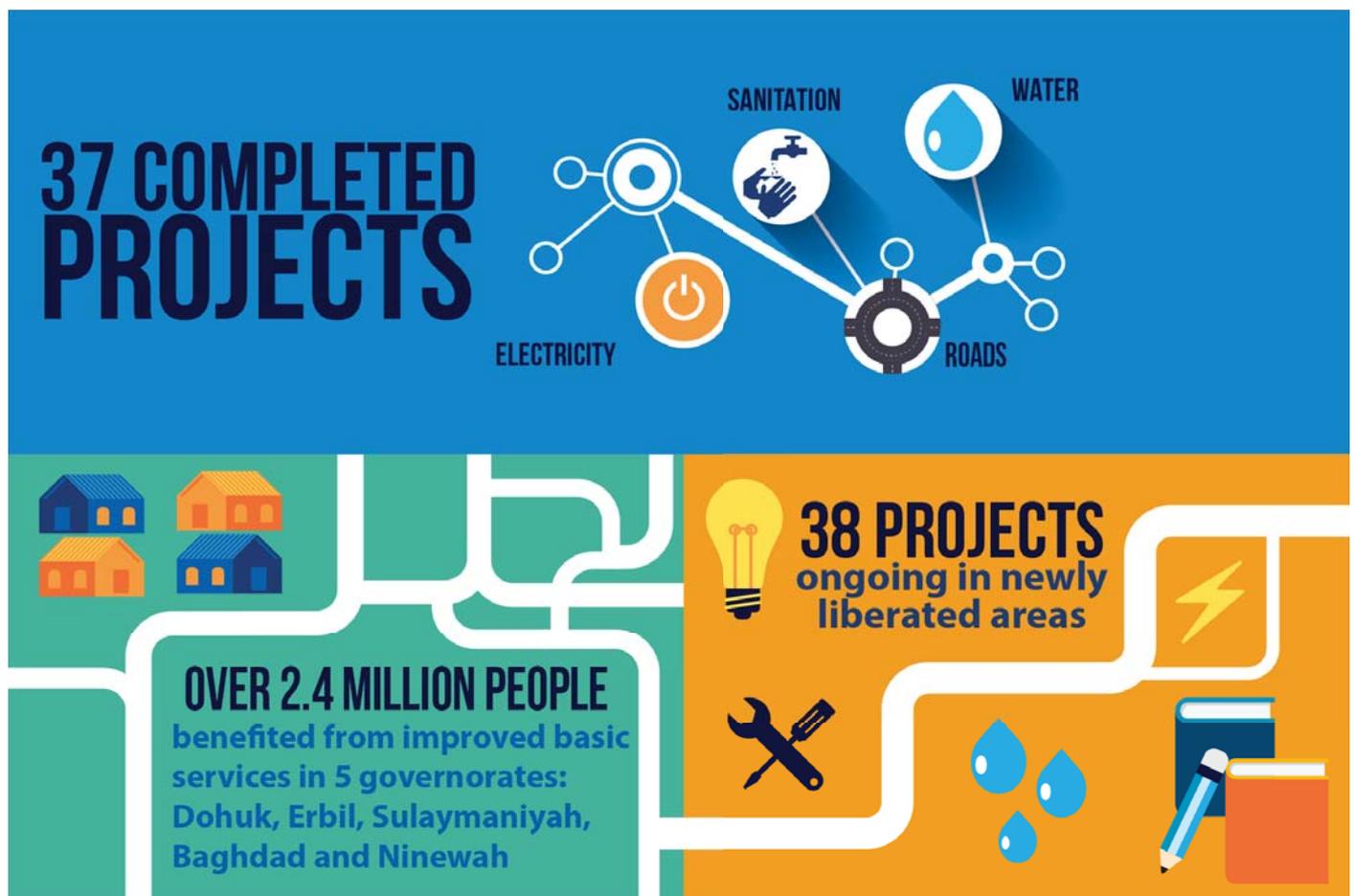


Image 5 : Improved Basic Services

CASE STUDY: IMPROVING SEWAGE TREATMENT, DOHUK

Providing sewage waste services, both inside and outside camp areas, is a critical basic service along with clean water and electricity. Solid and sewage waste had become a problem in Dohuk with the rapid increase in displaced and refugee families.

The excess waste caused blockages in the existing network, caused flooding in Dohuk city, district towns and the camps, and was creating serious health and social risks. ICRPP supported the Dohuk Governorate to strengthen its capacity to clean and maintain sewage networks in the cities as well as in the camps benefiting over 300,000 people. The handover of the first sewage truck was greeted with an appreciation notice, from the municipality, pinned to the front of the truck.



The first sewage truck was handed over to the Municipality of Dohuk benefiting over 300,000 people. Credit: UNDP Iraq/2016

SECTION 2.2



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In Hardan town, over 700 people returned to the houses rehabilitated by UNDP and UN-Habitat using a community-based approach and in partnership with the Ninewah Governor's Office. Additional rehabilitation work is ongoing in Sinuni encouraging the return of approximately 3,000 people. Credit: Paola Piccione/UNDP Iraq/2017



Credit: Paola Piccione/UNDP Iraq/2017

"My family and I were driven out of our home in Hardan town when the ISIL offensive on Mosul started. Our house was badly damaged and we had to take shelter in a camp for displaced people in Dohuk.

Thanks to this project, I was provided with construction material and technical support to rehabilitate my house. I fixed the ceiling while my neighbors helped me with the electrical connection. My family and I were able to return to Hardan town three months ago; we are so glad we can restart our lives now."

- Mr. Fasal Merza, (32), returnee.



ICRRP and the Governorate of Baghdad have completed the rehabilitation of the primary water supply infrastructure in Al Nahrawan district, where water shortages and lack of clean water exposed displaced people and the host community to the risk of waterborne diseases.

Over 400,000 people now have safe drinking water, including 30,000 displaced people from Anbar and Diyala Governorates hosted in Al Nabi Younis camp and surrounding villages.

Credit: Baraa Affif/UNDP Iraq/2016

2.3 STRAND 3 - IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS

Opening opportunities to work and earn a living is critical to recovery not just for displaced people and refugees but for those returning to newly liberated areas.

ICRRP is working on a range of initiatives to support improved livelihoods including vocational training, cash for work projects and collaboration with private enterprise to ensure job placements.

ICRRP has provided 18,104 households (over 40% female), from IDP, refugee and host families, with livelihood support. This includes temporary employment for 12,366 people, small business development and entrepreneurial skills for 2,046, vocational training for 2,946 and job placements for 746 people. It has also expanded its relationship with the private sector and 16 local companies have signed employment agreements for IDPs, as well as one company signing a training agreement.

Over 1.6 million households are headed by a widow and many more by a woman alone who may have escaped a forced marriage or abduction. Only 14% of Iraqi women participate in the labour force and in the rural areas educational and work opportunities are limited for them. ICRRP's initiative is seeking to empower women by offering vocational training and incentivising small businesses.

IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS



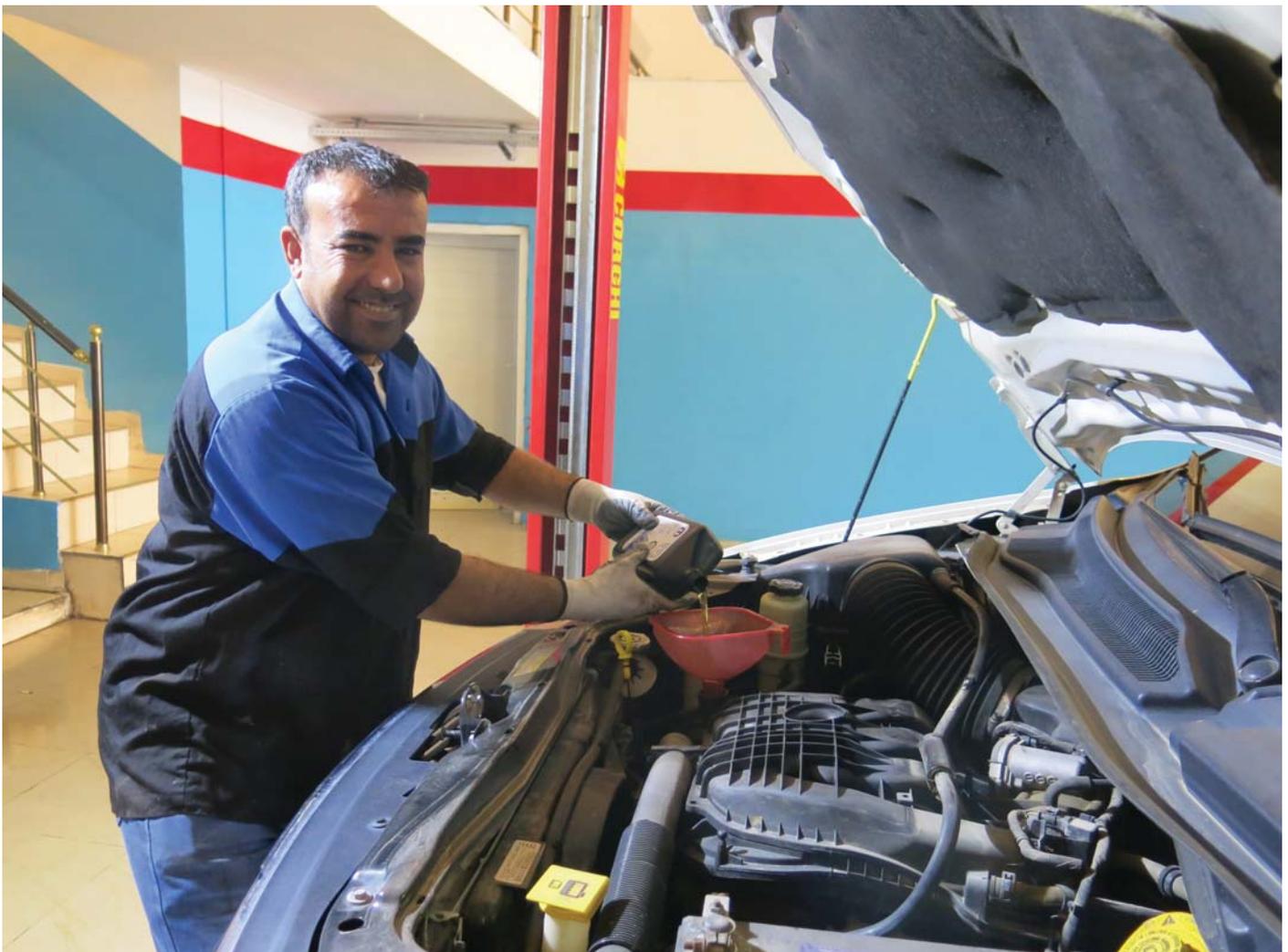
Image 6: Improved Livelihoods

PROVIDING STEADY JOBS IS KEY TO RESTORING THE LIVELIHOODS OF THE PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THE CRISIS.

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YOUSEF'S STORY. AUTO MECHANIC, ERBIL

"UNDP has given me the opportunity to create a brighter future for my family."



Yousef at work, Erbil. Credit: Zhin NGO/2016

Yousef Ibrahim Sultan (35) and his family fled the devastating conditions in Mosul and took refuge in Erbil Governorate, KRI. He could not find steady employment and worked as a casual labourer to try and support his family. With just a monthly wage of less than US\$160 the family's living conditions were extremely poor.

"My mother was very sick and I could not afford to take her to the hospital or send my children to school. We barely had enough money to feed the entire family," he said.

ICRRP's training programme helped Yousef find a regular job to match his skills.



Yousef and his son at the auto repair centre, Erbil. Credit: Zhin NGO/2016

Yousef, who has four children, now works at an auto repair centre in Erbil close to his new home. By using the money he earns he has been able to save to rent a house for the family.

"With a US\$700 monthly salary, we can eat three times a day and my children can afford to go to school. UNDP has given me the opportunity to create a brighter future for my family and I." he said. While his mother has since died Yousef says she would be smiling now to see what he has achieved.

KHALTHUM'S STORY. RESTAURANT OWNER, SULAYMANIYAH

"My dream of opening a restaurant came true."



Worker at Khalthum's restaurant, Sulaymaniyah. Credit: UNDP Iraq/2016

UNDP provides small grants to start, or restore, local businesses and these are key to enhancing livelihoods and revitalizing local economies. Khalthum Rustem, (55), from Sulaymaniyah, received a small business grant through a scheme run by the Erbil Chamber of Commerce and Industry and supported by UNDP's ICRRP.

Small business grants create economic opportunities for the most vulnerable people.



Workers at Khalthum's restaurant, Sulaymaniyah. Credit: UNDP Iraq/2016

Before becoming involved in this project, Khalthum was preparing food at home mainly for a takeaway service. Her business opportunities, and revenue, were very limited.

She is now running a well regarded restaurant in Sulaymaniyah, employing more than 20 workers, including displaced people, members of the Yazidi minority, and the host community.

"My dream of opening a restaurant came true. This would not have been possible without the grant I received. I am so glad I can support my employees who have gone through very difficult times and were struggling to find sustainable livelihoods," she says.

CASE STUDY: ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS AND PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY IN THE HOME.

GULISTAN AND NASHWAN'S STORY. QUAIL BREEDERS, NINEWAH.

Gulistan (23) and her husband Nashwan (27) have returned to their home in Alqosh, northern Ninewah. They had been forced to leave in 2014 when ISIL took control of the region and had lived as displaced people in Dohuk but found returning home was challenging.

"We were struggling to make ends meet after we returned. We depended on financial support from our relatives. We were going through a terribly difficult time," says Gulistan.



"Now I have my dignity back. I do not need anyone's help as long as we continue with our quail farming. I can even support my extended family. I can see a better future ahead!"

- Gulistan

Gulistan, Nashwan and their daughter Mariana in their house in Alqosh, Ninewah.

Credit: Paola Piccione/UNDP Iraq/2017

SECTION 2.3

Gulistan and Nashwan found new hope with help from ICRRP's livelihoods project. ICRRP provided Gulistan and Nashwan with 250 quails and trained the couple in quail breeding, with help from the Dohuk College of Agriculture and a local NGO. Since late 2016 Gulistan and Nashwan have sold 10,000 eggs and 260 birds at local markets and supermarkets. *"We now earn around US\$250 per month,"* says Nashwan.

The couple can now afford more food, and can buy clothes, fuel, and medical care for themselves and their newborn daughter Mariana. They do not have to depend on relatives for support, and they are paying off their debts.

"My husband was rarely home when he was jobless," says Gulistan. *"But since we embarked on this project, he has been spending more time with me, taking care of our quails. We support each other and I feel that our relationship is better. I am glad I can contribute to our household expenses and everyone in my family appreciates my work. Life has improved so much since we were selected for the project."* Nashwan agrees: *"My wife has full control over our income."*

"My brother fled to Germany for a safer life" he says "I told him about my quail farming business. I told him there is a window of hope for us. He is planning to come back to Alqosh."

"The crisis has been devastating for many families in this area. We were so desperate," Gulistan adds. *"But now I have my dignity back. I do not need anyone's help as long as we continue with our quail farming. I can even support my extended family. I can see a better future ahead!"*



Gulistan, Nashwan and their daughter Mariana in their house in Alqosh, Ninewah. Credit: Paola Piccione/UNDP Iraq/2017



Nashwan showing the quail eggs he produced in his house in Alqosh, Ninewah. Credit: Paola Piccione/UNDP Iraq/2017

2.4 STRAND 4 - PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE. WOMEN & YOUTH

Women and girls are amongst the hardest hit by the crisis. As displaced people or refugees they are at serious risk of sexual and gender based violence, including assault, rape and abduction.

ICRRP has created seven legal services centres and three mobile clinics in the KRI. These are operating in IDP and refugee camps, as well outside the camps, in collaboration with the Directorate of Combating Violence Against Women (DCVAW), under the Ministry of Interior in the KRI, and the Independent Board of Human Rights (IBHR) in Baghdad. 5,300 IDPs and refugees (90% female) have received legal and social services support.

In addition, 5,614 IDPs and refugees, again mostly female, attended legal and rights awareness sessions. Training has also been developed, on handling cases of sexual gender based violence, for 74 staff from DCVAW, IBHR and NGOs.



*Lawyer providing legal services to a female refugee in Kawergosk Camp, Erbil.
Credit: Alice Martins/UNDP Iraq/2016*

PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE GROUPS



Image 7. Protecting the Vulnerable Groups

SECTION 2.4



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*Female IDP receiving legal assistance in Baherka Camp, Erbil.
Credit: Alice Martins/UNDP Iraq/2016*



*Legal aid providers at Kawergosk Camp, Erbil.
Credit: Alice Martins/UNDP Iraq/2016*



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BENEFICIARY VOICES

"The legal centre helped me out of the isolation I felt for two years after I was subject to rape by a stranger when I was only 7 years old. It helped me integrate back into school. Now I can live like a normal child and study."

- A nine year old girl from Baherka IDP Camp, Erbil

"The legal centre found my son who was missing for two years. Thanks to them I know where he is and that he is fine."

- A fifty one year old woman from Ashti Camp, Sulaymaniyah

"I was being beaten and tortured by my father and brother on a daily basis. Thanks to the legal aid centre which put an end to this violence."

- A thirteen year old girl from Sharya IDP Camp, Dohuk

2.5 STRAND 5 - STRENGTHENING SOCIAL COHESION

The focus on social cohesion, on promoting community-based dialogue and participatory peace and reconciliation initiatives, is critical to the future of Iraq. For the millions of people, either displaced or Syrian refugees, the future is about going home and rebuilding their lives. Rebuilding lives in post conflict areas will require communities with capacities and tools to work together.

The social cohesion project aims to enable communities from different ethnic and religious background, to communicate, collaborate and understand each other, often in social conditions under extreme pressure from newly displaced populations and refugees.

ICRRP has conducted community-based activities and awareness campaigns in 19 communities, in Sulaymaniyah, Erbil, Dohuk, Basra, Najaf and Karbala. Dialogue platforms have been created in 19 communities with representatives from host communities, refugees and IDPs.

Around 5,200 people took part in community activities and 2,600 participated in consultation or dialogue sessions. Peace and recovery promotion initiatives are ongoing in Najaf and Dohuk and 1,900 people have been involved.



Youth from Najaf, Baghdad and Ninewah participating in a workshop on conflict analysis, community reconciliation and facilitation skills in Erbil. Credit: Al Amal NGO/2016

Promoting inter-ethnic and peace dialogue.

Hundreds of young people from Najaf, Baghdad and Ninewah are being trained in conflict analysis, community reconciliation and facilitation skills. When they successfully complete this training they are putting the knowledge gained into practice by leading a series of peace initiatives aimed at promoting inter-ethnic coexistence and tolerance.

Through this work, social cohesion and peace education have been strengthened amongst displaced people (both in and outside camps), non-Muslim minorities and the host communities in Najaf, Baghdad and Mosul.

Young people are change makers in Iraq.

"A journey like this comes once a life."

Mohammed Ameen

"I felt loved, respected, supported, and listened to."

Azad Qasso

"Discussing stereotypes and prejudices helped us realize that we can be drivers of peace, co-existence and tolerance."

Muntather Hassan

SECTION 2.5



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Youth trained by ICRRP implementing social cohesion activities for displaced children in Najaf.

Credit: Paola Piccione/UNDP Iraq/2017



Social cohesion activities in Najaf strengthened trust and tolerance amongst children and youth of different ethnic and religious groups.

Credit: Paola Piccione/UNDP Iraq/2017



Youth trained by ICRRP implementing social cohesion activities for displaced children in Najaf.

Credit: Paola Piccione/UNDP Iraq/2017

CASE STUDY: KASNAZAN PARK, ERBIL

Kasnazan, in Erbil, is a community with a high concentration of Syrian refugees and displaced people. One in every six resident is either a refugee or a displaced person.

ICRRP brought together volunteers from the host community, displaced people and Syrian refugees to plant 180 trees in the main park in Kasnazan; a park that had been abandoned for three years.

By coming together to plant trees in the park people improved their environment for everyone and shared a common purpose in a physical act of social cohesion.

Participant Voices

“I have found a new family here.”



Omar Talal Mohammad
Credit: Cengiz Yar/UNDP Iraq/2016

“Planting trees in this park is not only good for the environment. Working together with residents and members of the Syrian community helped me understand that there is no difference among ourselves. I lost everything when I had to flee from Mosul because of continuing violence. I have found a new family here.”

**- Omar Talal Mohammad, 28,
displaced from Mosul.**



Yasmen Ali Mustafa
Credit: Cengiz Yar/UNDP Iraq/2016

“Now that the park has been given a new life, I can spend my spare time with my children here. This is not only a playground for my children, it is a space where we feel welcomed.”

- Yasmen Ali Mustafa, 29, Syrian refugee.



Shadan Sherko
Credit: Cengiz Yar/UNDP Iraq/2016

“I am happy that refugees and displaced people, who have gone through unspeakable trauma, can now benefit from a green space where they can interact with the host community in Kasnazan. We are part of the same family.”

- Shadan Sherko, 22, member of host community.

3. FINANCIAL SECTION (US\$)

DONORS	RECEIVED IN 2016	BUDGETED FOR 2016	EXPENDITURE IN 2016
GERMANY/KFW	16,236,818	11,687,804	11,313,158
JAPAN	7,418,783	5,564,087	5,543,992
UK/DFID	1,106,903	1,106,903	1,106,903
UNHCR	149,934	149,934	149,934
UNDP	73,694	73,694	73,694
TOTAL	24,986,132	18,582,422	18,187,681

FUNDING 2017-2018 (US\$)

Financial needs: US\$125m

Funding available in 2017: US\$34m

Funding gap: US\$91m

4. PRIORITIES FOR 2017 -2018



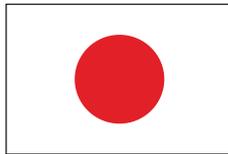
*Beneficiaries of ICRRP supported value chain development project in Dubiz, Kirkuk.
Credit: Andrea DiCenzo/UNDP Iraq/2016*

The priorities for 2017-2018 are to strengthen the work already done and continue to meet the needs of host communities, displaced people, refugees and increasingly those being affected by the military operation against ISIL. The ongoing military campaign to liberate ISIL controlled regions will both create humanitarian emergencies, with further displaced people during the conflict, and provide opportunities to support people returning home and seeking to rebuild and restore their lives. ICRRP's resilience efforts will be strengthened in newly liberated areas, especially in Diyala Governorate, and other governorates in the central and south regions of Iraq based on identified needs.

The learning experience of the 2014-2016 period has been to focus on integrated and systematic frameworks enabling existing government structures to respond effectively and deliver services as well as empowering communities to restore their livelihoods and enhance social cohesion. In a volatile and dynamic situation, a flexible response is critical and ICRRP will increase synergies among its focus areas, namely on government crisis coordination, basic services delivery, improved livelihoods, including housing and employment, and social cohesion. The gender focus in the programme is delivering and the emphasis on women's empowerment will continue as a cornerstone of resilience building.



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*



**From
the People of Japan**

