

UNICEF/Iraq/2019/Anmar: "I have been living here since the beginning of the war in Mosul," says 14-year-old Rafida, living in displacement in Dahuk. "I hope to become a laser engineer in the future."



Humanitarian Situation Report

Iraq April 2019



3.3 million
of children in need of humanitarian assistance



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



In 2019, **5,556** children received specialized child protection services, including reunification or alternative care



In 2019, **360,269** people had access to adequate sanitation through newly-established or maintained latrines



1.66 million
of internally displaced people (IDPs)

IOM DTM January 2014 to April 2019

SITUATION ANALYSIS

In April, heavy rains affected many areas of Iraq, including in Missan, Salah Al-Din and Wassit governorates, damaging key infrastructure and affecting an estimated 273,000 people, of whom around 19,500 were evacuated from their homes. In Missan, most-affected districts were Al Khair, Bani Hashim, Al Euzayer, Ali al Sharqi and Ali al Gharbi where 210,000 people were left without access to clean water. In Salah al Din, floods affected 53,000 people mainly in Shirqat, Baiji and Samara districts, where many families lost livestock and household items. The majority of displaced people are being hosted in nearby communities with families and friends, spread over different villages. The most-affected areas have inadequate drainage, meaning flood water becomes stagnant and increases risk of waterborne diseases, such as cholera. More information on water-shortage induced displacements can be found [here](#).

Return of around 31,000 Iraqis is expected from the Al Hol camp in Syria in the coming months. The vast majority (around 90 per cent) are women and children who have been identified as experiencing significant protection risks and concerns, as well as health and nutrition needs due to poor living conditions in the Al Hol site, where capacity has been significantly overstretched. An inter-cluster operational response plan has been developed, with the humanitarian community in Iraq advocating for returnees to be accommodated in existing Ninewa IDP camps. UNICEF Iraq preparedness is based on this plan, including support through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) at border crossings, as well as child protection monitoring, nutrition and health screening and education activities. It is anticipated that, once they have returned to Iraq, humanitarian assistance for this group will be needed until at least the end of 2019.



RESULTS

■ Individuals reached by UNICEF interventions (Jan - April 2019)
■ Individuals targeted (2019)

INDICATORS



Emergency affected populations with access to sufficient safe water supply

RESULT	% REACHED	TARGET
606,354	62%	972,808



Girls and boys receiving education supplies

37,879	19%	200,000
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Children and caregivers participating in structured, sustained, resilience, or psychosocial support programmes

74,183	55%	135,000
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Children under 1 year old vaccinated against measles (routine)

11,834	4%	314,985
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Most vulnerable children receiving child-focused cash transfer

3,039	20%	15,000
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Full summary of programme results (January to April) available [here](#).



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

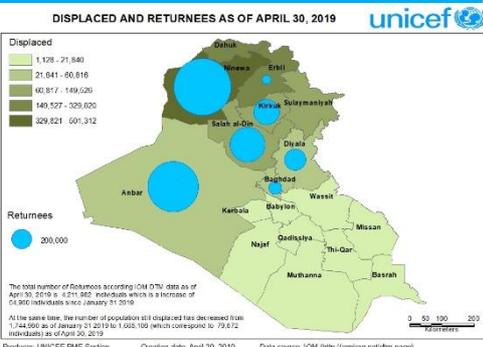
WASH: In April, flooding created need for additional and specific water, sanitation, and hygiene responses. In Missan, UNICEF delivered bottled water, hygiene kits, and WASH facilities (latrines, showers) for around 1,000 individuals (9,870 children). In Salah al Din around 8,334 individuals (3,917 children) were affected near the Tigris, UNICEF and partners distributed bottled water, hygiene kits, and buckets; and in Wassit, following a rapid needs assessment in Sheikh Sa'ad sub-district, buckets and hygiene kits reached around 600 individuals (300 children). In Sulaymaniyah, which borders Iranian areas that have also seen heavy rain in recent months, UNICEF is working with the governorate's emergency coordination cell to assess needs at damaged water treatment plants and prepare inventory of needed items for repair. UNICEF continues to support ongoing WASH services in IDP camps across Iraq, with over 600,000 people accessing safe water, and over 360,000 accessing safe latrines since the start of the year.

Education: In April heavy rains and flood waters damaged schools in Tuz, Salah al Din; UNICEF delivered eight pre-fabricated classrooms specifically to facilitate a safe space for around 982 children (613 girls) to take end-year exams. In Basrah, UNICEF conducted flood risk assessments for more than 850 schools, of which eight were identified as severely affected and 36 as 'under threat', should additional rains come. Work is ongoing to meet needs in these locations. Since the start of the year, 411 teachers (129 females) have completed trainings on delivery of Education in Emergencies (EiE), psychosocial support (PSS) in the classroom, and the life skills curriculum that focuses on developing '21st century' skills for children and young people.

Child Protection: In 2019, UNICEF and partners have supported 74,183 children (34,686 girls) to access structured sustained PSS. Specialized services (including reunification, alternative or specialized care) reached 5,556 children (2,482 girls). UNICEF-supported individual or group PSS sessions to support those at risk, or survivors, of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) have reached 13,585 girls and women. Awareness-raising activities and trainings promoting safer environment for women and girls this year reached 13,356 community members (4,498 women, 4,106 girls). In capacity development interventions 154 government and non-government service providers (54 females) were trained in delivery of specialized GBV services. Overall 26 reports of grave violations of child rights were recorded between January and April 2019, affecting 34 children (29 boys and 5 sex unknown), of which 21 incidents affecting 30 children were verified. Verified incidents included killing of 18 children and maiming of 8 (all boys) due to various types of explosives.

Health and Nutrition: As of April 2019, UNICEF and partners reported 11,834 children under one year (6,035 girls) vaccinated against measles through routine immunization, with 7,689 children in Anbar, Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Sulaymaniyah have received Vitamin A supplementation with their routine vaccination. Since the start of 2019, 191 cases of Severe Acute Malnourishment (SAM) have been treated in IDP camps in Anbar, Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Sulaymaniyah. In addition, 2,471 pregnant women and new mothers in IDP camps participated in sessions on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices and health promotion in 2019.

Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM): In case of return of Iraqis from Syria, the RRM Consortium will deliver critical assistance at the border-crossing. RRM supplies have been prepositioned in Dahuk, with more supplies available in Erbil warehouses.





72.9 million
UNICEF Iraq Appeal 2019

57.7 million
Funding Status*

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

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

\$ FUNDING STATUS

Appeal Sector

-  Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)
-  Education
-  Child Protection
-  Health and Nutrition
-  Cash-based Transfers
-  Non-Food Items
-  Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)

Available (US\$)	% Gap	Requirement (US\$)
23.8M	4%	24.9M
10.8M	0%	9.97M
14M	32%	20.4M
6.89M	0%	5.8M
1.14M	77%	4.89M
96,387	98%	6M
924,506	0%	890,245

Funding Status and Donor Recognition: As of April 2019, UNICEF Iraq's overall funding gap is 24 per cent. As of April 2019, UNICEF Iraq received new contributions towards its 2019 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal response for IDPs from the United States Bureau of Refugees, Population, and Migration (PRM), from UNICEF Germany, and from ECHO. UNICEF thanks all its donors for their ongoing support to some of the most vulnerable children and women in Iraq, especially to partner governments, UNICEF National Committees, Foundations and private individuals for their continued and sustained support. In 2019, UNICEF and partners were enabled to provide life-saving and life-sustaining interventions, thanks to the contributions of donors including the European Union (ECHO), the governments of Germany, the United States (Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration), Canada, Denmark, Japan, Australia, the Netherlands, Sweden and Kuwait. Humanitarian funding was received through the UNOCHA-administered Iraq Humanitarian Fund (IHF). Special thanks go to donors who provide multi-year thematic/flexible contributions.



©UNICEF/Iraq/2019/Kamal. A young Iraqi girl receives her polio vaccination.

Commitment to universal healthcare for every person in Iraq

On 7 April, 2019, UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) recommitted to supporting the Government of Iraq to ensure that every person in the country has access to quality healthcare services, in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of achieving universal health coverage by 2030. Iraq has made considerable progress in the past 25 years however more needs to be done to build on strengths and ensure access to essential services irrespective of socio-economic status or geographic location.

[Read the full Press Release here](#) and additional information on immunization in Iraq [here](#)

 UNICEF Iraq

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••• HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

More than 6.7 million people in Iraq, at least 3.3 million children under 18 years old, are in need of at least one form of humanitarian assistance in 2019 (Iraq Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2019). The strategic objectives of the 2019 Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) are: Post-conflict transition towards durable solutions; strengthening the centrality of protection; and contingency planning and preparedness for any future emergency response. The 2019 UNICEF HAC appeal will support just over one million people, at least 540,000 children. Strategic objectives of the 2019 HAC are aligned with the 2019 HRP. Humanitarian action in Iraq is complemented by the UN's 2019-2020 Recovery and Resilience Programme (RRP) which aims to fast-track the social dimensions of reconstruction. The RRP builds on existing humanitarian efforts and is designed to ensure people see tangible improvements in their daily lives early in the reconstruction process. UNICEF Iraq is committed to ensuring a risk-informed and conflict-sensitive approach going forward, seeking to strengthen adaptive programming for resilient development in consideration of the still-complex, fragile, and dynamic environment in the country.

✂ HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

In affected areas, local authorities are leading flood response with support from UN agencies, Clusters, and NGOs. The Iraq Cholera Task Force is active and has finalized a response plan to mitigate outbreak of any waterborne diseases arising due to poor water quality. In April, the WASH Cluster coordinated support to affected populations in Basrah, Muthanna, Ninewa, Salah al Din and Sulaymaniyah, and scaled up its water quality monitoring. A five-day hygiene promotion training (ending on 2 May) for 25 participants from WASH Cluster partners, in collaboration with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, supported by Action Contre la Faim. The objective was to enhance quality of hygiene promotion interventions in camp and non-camp areas.