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2021 (eleventh) Annual Consolidated Report on Activities Implemented under the Iraq UNDAF Fund

Report of the Administrative Agent of the Iraq UNDAF Fund for the period

1st of January – 31st of December 2021

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Abbreviations and acronyms

AA	Administrative Agent	MoP	Ministry of Planning
AWP	Annual Work Plan	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
COR	Council of Representatives of Iraq	MoWA	Ministry of Women's Affairs
CSO	Civil Society Organization	MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
DGBV	Domestic and Gender-based Violence	MPTF Office	Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
DSRSG	Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General	NDP	National Development Plan
FPU	Family Protection Unit	NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
GoI	Government of Iraq	PAR	Public Administration Reform
GRB	Gender Responsive Budgeting	PCN	Programme/Project Concept Note
IHCHR	Independent High Commission for Human Rights	PMAC	Prime Minister's Advisory Commission
IHEC	Independent High Electoral Commission	PSM	Public Sector Modernization
I-PSM	Iraq Public Sector Modernization Programme	PWG	Priority Working Group
IRFFI	International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq	RC	Resident Coordinator
ITF	Iraq Trust Fund	SAA	Standard Administrative Arrangement
JP	Joint Programme	SCSO	Steering Committee Support Office
KBA	Kurdistan Bar Association	SDS	Sand and Dust Storms
KPSM	Kurdistan Public Sector Modernization Project	SES	Senior Executive Service
KRBSA	Kurdistan Region Supreme Board of Audit	SGP	Strategic Government Plan
KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government	TOR	Terms of Reference
MoEn	Ministry of Environment	TOT	Training of Trainers
MoF	Ministry of Finance	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
MoH	Ministry of Health	UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
MoI	Ministry of Interior	UNDG	United Nations Development Group
MoLSA	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
		UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
		UPR	Universal Periodic Review

Definitions

Allocation

Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme.

Approved project/programme

A project/programme including budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund-allocation purposes.

Contributor commitment

Amount(s) committed by a donor to a Fund in a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) with the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent (AA). A commitment may be paid or pending payment.

Contributor deposit

Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed SAA.

Delivery rate

The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization against the 'net funded amount'.

Indirect support costs

A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. UNDG policy establishes a fixed indirect cost rate of 7 percent of programmable costs.

Net funded amount

Amount transferred to a Participating Organization less any refunds transferred back to the MPTF Office by a Participating Organization.

Participating Organization

A UN organization or other inter-governmental organization that is an implementing partner in a Fund, as represented by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MPTF Office for a particular Fund.

Project expenditure

The sum of expenses and/or expenditure reported by all Participating Organizations for a Fund irrespective of which basis of accounting each Participating Organization follows for donor reporting.

Project financial closure

A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

Project operational closure

A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all programmatic activities for which Participating Organization(s) received funding have been completed.

Project start date

Date of transfer of first installment from the MPTF Office to the Participating Organization.

Total approved budget

This represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

Contributing Donors

Contributing Donors	
 AUSTRALIA, Government of	 LUXEMBOURG, Government of
 BELGIUM, Government of	 NETHERLANDS, Government of
 CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	 NEW ZEALAND, Government of
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 FINLAND, Government of	 QATAR, Government of
 GREECE, Government of	 REPUBLIC of KOREA, Government of
 ICELAND, Government of	 SPAIN, Government of
 INDIA, Government of	 SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION
 IRELAND, Government of	 The Scottish Government
 ITALY, Government of	 TURKEY, Government of
 JAPAN, Government of	 USAID
 KUWAIT, Government of	

Introduction

The 2021 Annual Progress Report on activities implemented under the Iraq United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Fund is submitted to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and the Ministry of Planning (MoP) of the Government of Iraq (GoI) in addition to the donors of the Iraq UNDAF Fund by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent (AA) of the Iraq UNDAF Fund in fulfillment of the reporting provisions of the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA). The information presented in this Progress Report covers the period of 1 January to 31 December 2021.

Iraq has once again faced security, economic and political challenges during 2021. Mobility for project delivery was hampered by both security concerns and successive COVID-19 pandemic waves. The volatile environment preceding the Iraq Parliamentary elections also impacted the ability of UN Agencies to operate in the field. However, in its final year, the Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund approved five new projects that were successfully implemented thorough the year. It is noteworthy that three of these projects were joint UN Agencies initiative. Two of the five projects were directly concerned with environment and climate change, and emerging priority in Iraq. Furthermore, the Fund supported the design of a data platform for the Ministry of Planning that enables strategic and integrated planning, monitoring and coordination of projects and activities in Iraq that are relevant to the SDGs, which is central to both Government and UN activities in Iraq. The Fund was closed as of 31 December 2021.

The information contained within the remainder of the report is consolidated based on information and data provided in the individual progress reports prepared at country level and financial statements submitted by Participating Organizations at headquarter level to the MPTF Office; as well as information on decisions taken by the Iraq UNDAF Steering Committee throughout the course of the reporting period. It is neither an evaluation of the Iraq UNDAF Fund nor the MPTF Office's assessment of the performance of the

Participating Organizations tasks that belong to an independent evaluation

Governance arrangements

While the Steering Committee composition remained unchanged during the reporting period, it mainly met regularly at the Co-Chairs levels. The strategic and operational mechanisms such as the High-Level Committee (HLC) and the Steering Committee (SC), the Support office for the SC, the UNDAF PWG, etc. were simply not established since the UNDAF 2015-2019 did not materialize. The functions of the Steering Committee Support Office were minimalized and assumed by the Resident Coordinator Office. These include the programs monitoring and reporting as well as the follow up on specific requests by projects funded by the Fund. The below UNDAF structure arrangements were developed to be established when UNDAF is operational to ensure that the fund management, oversight and other functions are equally provided for within the scope of the various structures.

The following section outlines the roles and processes and describes how they contributed to the overall governance and accountability of the Iraq UNDAF Fund.

The High-Level Committee and the Steering Committee

The joint High-Level Committee (HLC) was designed by the UNCT and the Government of Iraq to provide the overall strategic direction for the UN-GOI development partnership. The HLC, Co-Chaired by the Secretary of Council of Ministers (COMSEC) and the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Development & Humanitarian/UN Resident Coordinator, RC) periodically reviews achievements and strategic management issues arising from the implementation of the UNDAF and take decisions to adjust the scope and geography to ensure achievement of agreed results. The Membership consists of UN Heads of Agencies (HoAs), and high-level representation from the Ministry of Planning (MoP), the Ministry of Finance (MoF), and the

Council of Ministers Secretariat (CoMSec) including members from Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI).

Based on the strategic directions provided by the HLC, the UNDAF Steering Committee (SC) coordinates and oversees the operations of the Iraq

UNDAF Fund and provides overall strategic guidance and oversight, as well as acts as a decision-making body for fund allocation. The SC is co-chaired by the Government (Co-Chairperson, Secretary of COMSEC) and the UN (Co-Chairperson Resident Coordinator) with balanced representation from the GoI and the UN, including representation from line Ministries, the UNCT and donors contributing to the Fund. The SC met for the last time in 2014 and only emails exchanged since then mainly between the Co-Chairpersons. The membership remained also the same since 2013.

Steering Committee Support Office (SCSO)

In principle, the mandate of the SCSO is to support and facilitate the work of the Steering Committee, including assistance in proposal development, as well as review of submissions prior to the Steering Committee's approval. The SCSO also tracks the status of the proposals, provides advice to the Participating UN Organizations and Steering Committee, and follows up on decisions taken by the various contributing structures to ensure timely follow-up and adherence to agreed Iraq UNDAF Fund procedures. The structure as such has been reduced to the minimum that consists of liaising with the MPTF

The UNDAF Programme Working Group

The UNCT and GOI are supposed to jointly manage the UNDAF through Programme Working Group comprised of all Agencies, Ministries and other partners contributing to the achievement of the UNDAF priority results but this group has not been set up due to the UNDAF hold on. The group was supposed to manage the collective effort toward priority results and outcomes achievements. A Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Group for evidence-based decision-making as well as other UNCT coordination mechanisms (i.e. GTF, Policy Engagement WG, Youth Task Force, Returnees TF, etc. were established in 2016 in preparation of the UNDAF review and adjustment.

Administrative Agent (AA)/Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office)

The role of the MPTF Office, as the AA for the Iraq UNDAF Fund, includes the receipt, administration

and management of contributions from donors, disbursement of funds to Participating UN Organizations in

accordance with decisions of the Steering Committee, consolidation and dissemination of progress reports to the MoP and donors. The consolidated report produced by the MPTF Office presents the progress of the projects funded by the Iraq UNDAF Fund, narrative and financial, aligned to the PWG structure. Through the MPTF Office GATEWAY, a public website on all MPTFs administered by the MPTF Office, it ensures full transparency of the operations of the Iraq UNDAF Fund.

Project/programme achievements

1. Supporting the United Nations Network on Migration in Iraq (IOM – UNDP)

This project aimed to support the Government of Iraq (GoI) in addressing migration challenges, by developing stronger institutional capacities for migration management through the frameworks of the National Migration Strategy (NMS), the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Since 2009, the GoI has been taking a series of actions to strengthen its institutional framework on migration. These included the promulgation of the Law on the Ministry of Migration and Displaced (MoMD) No. (21) of 2009, as well as international migration agreements and consultative processes on key migration issues and drivers, including Trafficking in Persons (TiP) and related transitional organized crimes, people smuggling and migration cooperation with European countries. In 2020, with support from IOM, Iraq drafted its first NMS, which was endorsed by the Minister of MoMD and today acts as the national policy framework providing guidance for Government institutions and local stakeholders on migration management. To support the GoI with taking forward NMS implementation and to further strengthen the migration governance architecture, this project supported the UN Network on Migration and its participating agencies IOM and UNDP to provide coherent institutional support to the GoI and local stakeholders.

Overall, this project was expected to contribute to enhanced institutional capacity for comprehensive evidence-based migration management. Key

objectives included: i) The establishment of the UN Network on Migration in its role as Coordinator and Secretariat; ii) Supporting the government and local stakeholders in strengthening their governance capabilities, mainstream SDGs in national strategic documents and implement the GCM through training, consultations and workshops; iii) the development of research on pertinent migration related issues to support improved knowledge for evidence-based governance frameworks ; iv) Enhancing collaborative action at the local level on understanding and tackling migration related issues.

This project sat squarely in support of Iraq's NDP 2018-2022, particularly towards the first strategic objective of 'establishing the foundations of good governance,' which recognizes the importance of strengthening state capacities based on rule of law, developing the capacity development of GoI officials concerned with human rights, upgrading services delivered by institutions concerned with displaced populations and ensuring effective public participation in decision making.

1.1 Overall Project Achievements and Results (by output)

Output 1: The UN Network on Migration in Iraq is functioning with an established Coordinator and Secretariat

Following the endorsement of the Terms of Reference (ToR) in January 2021, The UN Network on Migration in Iraq (the Network) was able to kickstart coordination activities and move toward developing a joint strategy. As part of its coordinator and secretariat duties, IOM supported the Network in expanding its membership to over 40 members, who mainly comprise of migration technical focal points responsible for supporting the forum in advancing with key actions. The Network also enhanced its visibility releasing various press statements related to the GCM objectives, and parallelly engaging with the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), which is the first review conference of the GCM and is to take place on 17-20 May in New York. By adopting a participatory approach and with the support of IOM and its technical focal points, the Network finalized and endorsed its strategy which comprises of four priority areas: 1) Legal Affairs and Migrants Rights 2) Management of Migration Data 3) Return & Reintegration and 4) Economic Affairs & Labour Migration. The strategy is expected to guide the work of the Network going forward and ascertain where resources to support GCM implementation can be pooled from and where gaps are. IOM, in collaboration with other Network members such as

UNDP, supported the establishment of a migration policy mandate in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). This included advocacy and coordination with the United Nations Country teams (UNCT), compiling inputs and acting as a data verification source for outcome and output level data.

Output 2: The government and local stakeholders have strengthened institutional and analytical capacities on migration governance and related SDGs

This project supported the GoI and local stakeholders in enhancing their migration governance capabilities, mainstream SDGs in national strategic documents, include migration activities in Iraq SDG's Voluntary National Review (VNR) process and implement the GCM. This was achieved through the delivery of migration governance training sessions, conducting multi-stakeholder workshops to include the SDGs in national strategic documents, holding consultations with key national migration governance stakeholders and the GoI on Iraq SDG's VNR and the GCM implementation. In June 2021, IOM provided technical and advisory support to the GoI in view of the participation of various meetings, including the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) Side Meeting on the GCM, the Regional UN Network Briefing for Member States on the IMRF and the MoMD's visit to Germany and the US to discuss migration-related issues.

Among the key achievements, the MoMD representative mentioned the development of the NMS as a national tool to implement the GCM, the establishment of the inter-ministerial technical working group on migration with four thematic taskforces with specific focus (including one on return), the decision to join the GCM Champion Countries Initiative, and the engagement of the Iraqi diaspora abroad to the migration related developments in Iraq. Regarding Return, Readmission and Reintegration (RRR) and readmission cooperation between Iraq and the EU, the MoMD highlighted the need to establish an efficient identity verification system, a mandatory tool for national security that requires a comprehensive approach, reliable database and data management, close partnership between the involved stakeholders and cross border cooperation. The GoI's efforts to build the National Referral Mechanism to ensure the sustainability of reintegration and community stability were also mentioned.

Output 3: Research on migration related topics is made available and supports improved knowledge

Within the framework of this project, the Network acted as knowledge hub for pertinent migration related research. UNDP conducted the research study ‘A Gender & Intersectional Analysis of Migration-Related Issues.’ This study looked at existing protection mechanisms and challenges in access to justice for displaced returnee women and girls, including access to legal assistance and recognition of personal status. Parallely, to capitalize on existing flow monitoring information at five border crossing points with Iraq’s neighboring countries, IOM produced the report entitled ‘Migrants in Vulnerable Situations Entering and Exiting Iraq.’ This piece of research served to better understand migration movements in the Middle East and provided background context to the Belarus-Lithuania border situation where many Iraqi migrants were trying to cross into Europe. The findings informed members of the Network on key drivers for outward migration and an indication of the demographics of those embarking on migration routes. In terms of the long-term strategy of the network the assessment highlighted the need for joint and coordinated work on migration/GCM-relevant areas.

Output 4: Local actors have a stronger understanding of migration related issues and ability to address them

UNDP developed the ‘Guideline to Establish Safe Spaces for Returnee and Migrant Women and Girls in Iraq’. The guideline was informed by local assessments and consultations carried out with 63 stakeholders from NGOs, the GoI and beneficiaries’ communities. The guideline is meant to guide NGOs and government entities in the establishment of safe spaces for displaced, returnee, migrant women and girls to rebuild community networks and access tailored support services. The guideline was presented at a validation session with 29 female representatives from women-led NGOs across Iraq to contribute to local ownership.

1.2 Challenges and lessons learned

Due to challenges related to the political context and the turmoil cause by the political election which took place in November 2021, IOM was unable to conduct the peer-to-peer trainings and the visibility activities planned under this project.

Due to challenges related to the COVID-19 global

pandemic, some activities had to be conducted remotely by both UNDP and IOM.

1.3 Qualitative assessment

By supporting the Network in Iraq and its participating agencies, this project has successfully contributed to building institutional migration management capacities in Iraq, supporting the implementation of key national frameworks, such as the NMS, the GCM and the SDGs.

1.4 Evaluation

During November and December 2021, UNDP contracted an independent professional to conduct an unbiased evaluation of the UNDP component of the project. The evaluation found that the project was relevant to the country’s needs and UNDP’s positioning, but its concept could have been better defined. Room for improvement was found in coordination mechanisms, however all activities were conducted in a timely manner, and in line with the set priorities, effectively achieving its targets. Key recommendations included the strengthening of the sustainability strategy; the development of projects that are more focused on analysis, and less activity-centred; and the need to enhance monitoring capacities and knowledge-sharing.

2. SDGs Communications Campaign (UNDP-UNICEF)

The aim of this joint campaign was to raise awareness on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Iraq, including through online and offline activities.

This SDG campaign aimed to highlight the importance of SDGs in Iraq mainly through social media and offline activities by engaging and empowering young people and the general public to advocate for sustainable approaches to development for future generations.

The Project Objectives were:

- Raising awareness of the public in Iraq on SDGs
- Engaging youth (aged 13–24) in Iraq through community engagement activities around the SDGs
- Empowering young people through the provision of tips on how to interact and engage positively online on SDGs

The Campaign is in line with Iraq's National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2022, which has a broad and far-reaching agenda touching on key elements of the SDGs such as employment, clean water, economic growth, and environmental sustainability. As such, the proposed campaign related to the NDP as a whole, and not a specific thematic area.

In terms of relevant UNSDCF Strategic Results & Outcomes, as the SDGs cut across all sectors, the project was relevant to all 5 UNSDCF Strategic Results, especially IRQ05:

- IRQ01 Governance and Human Rights
- IRQ02 Economic Growth
- IRQ03 Environment
- IRQ04 Essential Social Services
- IRQ05 HumanCapital_Women_Youth_Child

2.1. Assessment of Programme Results

The project aimed to ensure that: 1) Iraqi youths are aware of and understand the SDGs, the agenda's impact on Iraq and the progress made to date; and 2) SDG campaign resources are made available to the UNCT and other stakeholders, including Government of Iraq counterparts, so that these can be utilized after the campaign ensuring sustainability of messages and return on investment. The project contributed to achieving all 5 UNDAF Strategic Results, as the SDGs cut across all sectors, especially IRQ05 on Human Capital, as it provided young people with tools to have a better knowledge of how to build a more sustainable Iraq.

The main online activity was a social media SDGs campaign through the social media platforms of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT); the campaign was boosted through pre-paid cards to ensure maximum outreach amongst young people. In terms of offline outreach, focus was on the dissemination of the campaign content in universities and public areas. As a result, 3.25 million people (according to UNICEF metrics, 26 per cent women/girls) were reached – against a planned target of 1 million - through the overall campaign. The beneficiaries were reached through a number of videos and infographics about the SDGs. This overachievement is due to the wide involvement of the ten UN agencies that took part in the campaign, using the materials in their own social media channels, as well as to the active engagement of other partners - such as civil society organizations, academia (universities) and private sector partners

(such as Toyota) – that widely disseminated the campaign content (including infographics about the SDGs). Furthermore, six murals were developed in universities and public spaces as initially planned. However, no public event was organized to inaugurate the murals as originally planned due to security and COVID-19 restrictions. The initial plan was to engage online at least 2,000 young people, who were expected to share content about these public events and the murals online; since the public events did not take place, an estimated 144,000 young people (with a quarter of them being girls and young women) – out of a total number of nearly 360,000 people - were engaged with the content of the digital campaign (and either liked/commented or shared the above-mentioned content through their social media accounts).

In addition, the campaign also engaged civil society organizations and institutional partners, seven partners. These include Imprint of Hope NGO, Toyota, and the universities of Sulaymaniyah, Anbar, Al Muthana, Mosul and Baghdad. Their engagement was essential to ensure the sustainability of the results in the longer-term. From the UN Country Team, 10 agencies took part in the implementation of the campaign, including UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR, UNESCO, UNAMI, UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, WFP, and ILO. Their involvement created the groundwork for future joint UN collaboration on the SDGs. The campaign also laid the foundations for future partnerships with the private sector, NGOs and government partners, fostering knowledge-sharing strategies and joint enhanced efforts to contribute towards the SDGs. The millions of people reached and young people engaged in project are a testament to the project's success.

The campaign was successful due to the partnerships and joint work between UN agencies, universities, local authorities, NGOs and young Iraqis. The campaign showed capacity to reach young people and wider society in SDGs promotion, providing a basis for targeted awareness-raising campaigns, such as digital campaign oriented to certain population groups and the importance of SDGs in their future (i.e.: women and gender-equality related SDGs) and presenting an opportunity for future partnerships in the country on SDGs.

2.2. Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned

The utilization of the funding was one of the main challenges of the project. All funding was allocated to UNICEF, which had to act as a “bridge” with all other agencies. Part of this funding was aimed at boosting content in social media channels of all UN partners; it was thus needed to find a company that was able to deliver this service to other agencies, which do not necessarily have available advanced processing payments for their social media channels. This was finally managed through a company that delivered pre-paid cards with different amounts to the agencies; these were used by the agencies to promote content in their social media channels. This provided a lesson learnt for the future; to boost social media campaigns at UN-wide level in Iraq, pre-paid social media cards should be factored in and budgeted since the beginning.

3. Sustainable Solutions of Compost Production from Organic Waste in Iraq - Karbala Governorate (UNDP – UNEP)

The outcome of the Programme is *improved economic opportunities for environmental practices in the solid waste management sector for local community in the Karbala Governorate* and is aligned with the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) of Iraq under the overall goal of the waste sector: To support the integrated management of waste and to promote and improve its management and recycling to produce energy from solid waste, preserve the environment, improve the quality of treated water, and reduce energy consumption as part of achieving sustainable development goals. Furthermore, the Programme is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2020-2024 “Strategic Priority Area 4: Promoting Natural Resource and Disaster Risk Management, and Climate Change Resilience” and supports the National Solid Waste Management Plan (NSWMP). Contributing to the achievement of these strategic results, the Iraq National Organic Waste Composting Strategy was developed and handed over to Karbala Municipality and the MoEn. The strategy as well as the guidelines, SOPs and other documents developed by the Programme will support scaling the Karbala pilot composting facility in other cities in Iraq.

The programme was implemented jointly by UNDP and UNEP under Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) with partnership with the local authorities of

Karbala including the Governor’s office and Karbala Municipality.

3.1 Narrative reporting on results:

The Programme focused on achieving four outputs as detailed below:

Output 1: “Enhanced knowledge of the local community on the Solid Waste Management (SWM) sector and potential for livelihood opportunities in the value chain” the project conducted desk reviews and surveys to assess the current situation and identify awareness raising needs. Based on the analysis from the collected data, awareness programmes were developed. The indicator for this output was to identify stakeholders for data collection and awareness activities disaggregated by gender as well as awareness campaigns conducted. The target was achieved through identifying 50 stakeholders in Karbala City with more than 30 % women representation. Awareness programmes were conducted jointly with Karbala Municipality targeting producers of organic wastes, including hotels, restaurants, café, local markets, and a shopping mall all located within Karbala city.

Output 2: “Enhanced capacities of local authorities on composting and waste management.” the target was to develop a capacity assessment report and conduct training on compost delivery, organic waste handling and composting techniques. A capacity assessment report was developed based on a desk review and information gather from the stakeholders. Based on the assessment report a training programme was developed and training conducted with participation of 25 staff members (including 7 women) from Karbala Municipality and Karbala Environmental Department.

Output 3 aimed at developing a business modality of compost production and marketing approaches as well as a national strategy for upscaling. The indicators under this output were number of market supply and demand studies completed and national strategy for promoting waste to compost developed as well as number of awareness events on economic benefits for organic compost conducted. All targets were met with the:

- Completion of a study on municipal compost production and marketing potential in Iraq,
- Development of a national organic waste composting strategy
- Implementation of awareness raising activities targeting the private sector involved in the agrochemical business to raise awareness as well

as assessment their willingness to promote compost.

Construction of a pilot composting facility was the target of Output 4. The first step of output 4 was to identify potential sites and this was done during the first technical meeting held on the 10th of June 2021, two sites were proposed by Karbala Municipality. The first site was within Karbala Waste Transfer station which was not suitable since an EIA would not be approved due site location within the city as well as limited area within the already fully utilized transfer station for waste handling. The second site was within the area of the planned Karbala Typical Landfill site, an EIA was prepared for the pilot composting facility and was approved by the Middle Environmental Directorate under the MoEn. Although there is a sufficient area to be utilized for the pilot composting facility as well as scale up potential, Karbala Typical Landfill is in a rural area not served by the city infrastructure including electricity, water and roads. The project identified that a minimum supply of electricity would be needed to operate the pilot composting facility and therefore an electricity supply unit was included in the implementation plan of the facility. The electricity supply unit was chosen to be solar energy powered in order to mitigate GHG emissions as well as to be used as a show case of the potential of renewable energy. The procurement process to contract an eligible company went through a lengthy process of several phases in order to ensure that only qualified companies with a proven track record would be contracted. Upon contracting the most suitable company, a company located in Najaf (60km from Karbala) with experience in construction for both the public and private sector, a site handover meeting was held on site between UNDP, Karbala Municipality and the company. The construction phases (earth works, construction of facilities, road works and fencing of area) were implemented in parallel with several shifts in order to complete the pilot composting facility within 5 weeks. The pilot composting facility was handed over to Karbala Municipality and an opening ceremony was agreed to be held in April 2022. Evaluation templates was handed over to Karbala Municipality for them to input data based on the first two months of production and for the Municipality to use it for their reference. The evaluations were originally planned to be conducted within the project lifetime but was not possible since Karbala Municipality decided to finalize their preparations of the collection and transportation of waste before the opening in April 2022 of the composting facility.

The pilot composting facility is estimated to have an annual input capacity of up to 150 tonnes of organic waste and generate it 75 tonnes of compost. The pilot composting facility will directly benefit farmers as well as managing annual organic waste for 100 households (500kg per capita is the average annual organic waste per capita in Iraq) in addition to improving the soil with compost (instead of using fertilizer) which is a more environmentally friendly and sustainable way of maintaining healthy agriculture. Studies show that compost from organic waste mitigates 50% of CO₂- equivalent GHG emissions compared to organic waste being dumped in landfill sites.

The overall achievement of the programme is the establishment of a foundation (which includes capacities, systems, guidelines/standards) to utilize organic waste in organic compost production in Karbala Governorate, that could then be scaled up across Iraq. Although the pilot composting facility itself is located within Karbala Governorate, key achievements such as the national organic waste composting strategy, the SOPs, awareness materials, data collection questionnaires, design and guide for composting facility, can be relied upon across the country. The key partnership under the Programme was with the Karbala Governor Office and Karbala Municipality and they supported quick implementation from their side as the Programme had an original implementation time of 6 months. Other partnerships included the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) which is specialized in developing low carbon strategies and supported the programme in developing the business modality and national strategy. Furthermore, UNDP and UNEP's joint implementation utilized the resources from both agencies effectively in order to achieve the results. Meetings were held between UNDP and UNEP regularly as needed and both agencies secured services from qualified national and international experts to support developing the deliverables and support Karbala Municipality.

In relation to the potential scale up, a project document was developed focusing on a 3 year time-frame with the aim of revising existing legislations and regulations for circular economy and strengthening environment-friendly schemes within the solid waste management context, and conducting knowledge and awareness activities targeting the local community of Karbala. Furthermore, the proposed project will support enhancing the capacities of Karbala Municipality on composting and waste management, develop business modality of compost production and marketing approaches as well as establishing and

maintaining of one commercial scale composting facility and one environmentally friendly and cost-efficient sludge management pilot scale co-digestion facility.

3.2 Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned

Challenges: During the implementation of the programme, COVID-19 impact was clear in terms of the safety regulations for gatherings and movements, Beneficiaries, stakeholders and the project team were also infected by COVID-19 during the spike in cases in 2021. Parliamentary elections were held in Iraq on the 10th of October 2021 and was followed by a tense political and security situation. In addition, the programme faced a delay of 3 months due to final approval of the Programme Document from the Government representatives and therefore delays in fund transfer.

The mitigation actions for the challenges above included proactive preparations of the Programme including meetings with stakeholders, development of Terms of References for consultants and data collection. Several meetings were held virtually, and the international experts joined all events virtually to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 from international travel.

Best Practices: A best practice of the programme was relying on UNDP Karbala sub office. The sub-office in the Karbala City has established connections with the Local Authorities of Karbala through having supported a number of projects in the Karbala Governorate in the fields of solid waste management, youth skills development and livelihoods. In person meetings with the decision makers was possibly even on a daily basis when needed and this provided a momentum to speed up the process of decision making ,data collection, conducting the EIA and site hand over of the construction of the pilot composting facility. In addition, the project received international expertise and experience sharing from the IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies to ensure the international best practices were incorporated in the project implementation.

Lessons Learned: A key lesson learned related to the procurement process for the construction of the pilot composting facility and necessary measuring equipment for composting. The specifications, design and Bills of Quantity (BoQ) was developed by an international composting expert with experience in the

middle east region and based on the successful composting experience in Jordan, the neighboring country to Iraq with similarities in the local context and public behavior. The specific equipment needed and limited time for implementation resulted in a limited number of bidders and thus a lengthy process to ensure the qualification of the bidders to implement in a timely and quality manner began. The evaluation of bidders was done in detail to ensure that the bidders had a good track record in related fields as well as the capacity to implement within the limited period and with the best value for money principle. As for the composting equipment, only a limited number of companies can provide the very specific equipment to measure gases that determines the quality of the compost being produced in the pilot composting facility. The first advertisement failed to receive any bids and a second succeeded in receiving only two offers. The lessons learned is the need of developing specifications and criteria that are available in the market following a detailed market assessment. With support from UNDP Iraq's Senior Management the procurement process was fast tracked and prioritized without jeopardizing the selection of qualified bidders. In the end, the Programme was able to sign contracts with qualified companies and through cooperation with Karbala Municipality in terms of site hand over and clearing the receipt process of the equipment, the procurement processes were completed.

The management arrangements with key decisions being taken by Karbala Governor, Head of Karbala Municipality as well as senior management from UNDP Iraq and UNEP supported course correction of the project when bottle necks were faced. The project management teams of UNDP and UNEP met on a weekly basis to ensure progress of the Programme during the first months and then met regularly to follow up implementation of activities.

4. Socio-Economic Development of the Maysan and Eastern Hammar Marshes (UN-Habitat)

4.1 Objectives and Rationale

Despite the numerous programmes and projects dedicated to the revitalization of the Mesopotamian marshes, the interface with tourists and access to markets by local communities remains challenging. Following earlier discussions on the need for local area development investments along tourist routes in Maysan, in 2019, Maysan Governor approached UN-Habitat to request the delivery of community

infrastructure for the mooring of boats, orientation of tourists and sale of local products at the entrance of the Hawizeh marshes, as a “quick win project” that could help to build the confidence of the local community – particularly the Youth – increasingly drawn towards cities in search for better livelihood opportunities. This initiative was seen as an opportunity to open a dialogue with the local authorities and community representatives on what kind of spatial investments would be most beneficial to the revival of the marshes by improving tourists’ access to these areas. The project, extended just before funding approval by COMSEC to a second location at the entrance of the Eastern Hammar marshes, aimed to initiate a conversation on strategic spatial planning matters critical for the socio-economic revitalisation of the marshes areas and the sustainability and coordination of future investments along tourist routes.

The *National Development Plan 2018-2022* recognizes that spatial disparities between Iraqi governorates are increasing, especially between rural and urban areas, intensifying the duality in spatial development within the country and maintaining the inherited underdevelopment of rural areas. Rural governorates such as Maysan are experiencing a gradual decline in their rates of population density. GoI’s *Poverty Reduction Strategy* acknowledges the worsening indicators in southern governorates. Maysan, in particular, ranks first in terms of poverty in rural areas (73%). Another important objective of the *NDP 2018-2022* concerns the conservation of the country’s unique biodiversity and the sustainable use of its ecological systems – specifically referring to the exceptional importance of Al-Ahwar (the Iraqi marshes) for its natural, economic, cultural and historical features.

The overall objective of the project is to enhance the resilience and livelihoods of marshes communities through the realization of two contextually-appropriate community infrastructures for the mooring of boats, orientation of tourists and sale of local products that would improve accessibility to the Hawizeh and Eastern Hammar marshes, and the establishment of a dialogue with the local authorities and community representatives focusing on what kind of spatial investments would be most beneficial to the revival of the marshes and the creation of nature and cultural heritage routes through this region.

By supporting the authorities at the national and provincial level to achieve these goals, the project

supports both *UNDAF 2015-2019 – Outcome 1: Improving the performance and responsiveness of targeted national and sub-national institutions, and Outcome 2: Addressing acute vulnerability and participation gaps.*

4.2. Overall achievements and Results

Output 1: Site assessments of designated departure/arrival of visitors, tourists and community members conducted at the entrance of the Hawizeh and Eastern Hammar marshes.

- Delayed by travel restrictions, UN-Habitat’s team was able to set up office in Basra only in summer 2021 and organise introductory meetings with the Maysan and Basra authorities, consult local experts and sister agencies working in the area, and conduct site assessment visits.
- The different sites options proposed by the local authorities were assessed in relation to their physical accessibility (distance from the main access roads and the boat mooring on the canals) and required authorizations (security), land elevation, verifications of land ownership status, and location in relation to boundary of the marshes Buffer Zone defined by UNESCO, and advice from local experts and staff of the Maysan Centre for Restoration of Iraqi Marshes & Wetlands.

Output 2: Participatory Workshops conducted with local boatmen of the Hawizeh and Eastern Hammar marshes for the design of basic community infrastructure serving visitors, tourists and inhabitants.

- Unfortunately, the Request for Proposals (RfP) launched in October 2021 (publicly in UNGM and sent directly to a list of pre-identified NGOs) for the organisation of participatory workshops and the implementation of the resulting projects was unsuccessful. Asked why they did not apply, representatives of the contacted NGOs responded that they (a) do not have experience in applying to UN grants; (b) do not have a project team capable of developing proposals in English; and (c) the implementation timeframe of less than 6 months was deemed too short.
- As a result of the failure to contract an NGO to conduct the Participatory Workshops, UN-Habitat relied on its two field Community Mobilisers to consult members of the local communities with the intent to better understand their needs, while UN-Habitat senior project engineers visited the proposed site in Hawizeh marshes and met with the

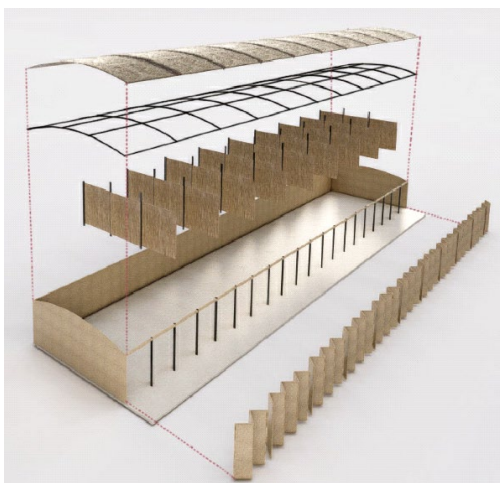
local authorities. Planned field missions by UN-Habitat staff were later affected by the 30-day freezing of all in-country missions by UN personnel following the October 2021 elections.

Output 3: Site Planning Workshops to design an improved departure/arrival area for tourists in collaboration with the local authorities and relevant NGOs conducted in the 2 locations.

- Site plans were developed for both sites and amended following each consultation with the Governorate authorities, staff of the Maysan Centre for Restoration of Iraqi Marshes & Wetlands, tribal chiefs and *mukhtars*. The consultations were conducted by UN-Habitat staff directly.

Output 4: Detailed Plan and Design of (1) community infrastructure at the entrance of the Hawizeh marshes consisting of a wooden pier/ mobile pontoon for tourist boats, shaded departure and arrival area, kiosk facilities for vendors of local produce, solar power units, information boards, orientation facility, nature paths, WASH facility and parking areas; and (2) improved boat and pedestrian access to the Eastern Hammar marshes.

- According to the project document, UN-Habitat was to realise one infrastructure complex at the entrance of the Hawizeh marshes and only improve the boat and pedestrian access to the Eastern Hammar marshes. Unsurprisingly, early on during the consultations and negotiations, it became evident that the Basra provincial authorities expected the same investment planned for the Hawizeh marshes to be realised at the entrance of the Eastern Hammar marshes. Despite the budget limitations the team accepted to duplicate the planned infrastructure.



- The conceptualisation of the facilities was driven

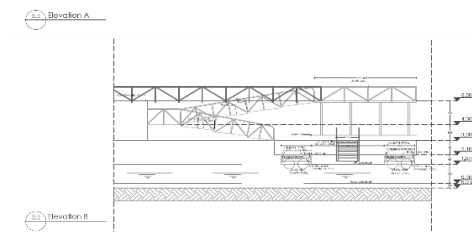
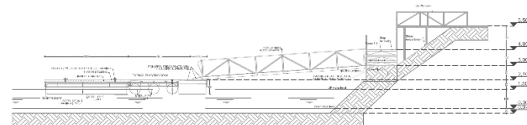
by principles of eco-sustainability and respect for what is considered a very fragile environmental area. Aside from the inclusion of a traditional *mudhif*, the design of the shops and shading veranda maximised the use of traditional construction materials sourced in the marshes, such as reed screens.

Output 5: Community infrastructure and related facilities constructed at the identified sites through a local Implementing Partner.

- UN-Habitat’s field team obtained all the necessary approvals and paperwork finalising the choice of the two suitable plots of land for the construction of the tourism orientation facility.
- The lack of a clear geo-referenced property map and tribal claims risked derailing the projects several times.
- The public tendering of the works was finally launched in November 2021 (publicly in UNGM and sent directly to 35 pre-identified private contractors) and successively awarded in December.

Output 6: Livelihoods Survey conducted through a local Implementing Partner conducted.

- A questionnaire consisting of 40 multiple choice and open questions focusing on socio-economic issues, and exploring local challenges and opportunities related to the tourism sector was designed by the team.



Output 7: Spatial Planning Workshops with local authorities, selected community members and relevant NGOs conducted in Amarah, Basra or Al Qurnah.

- Consultations on challenges faced by local authorities are on-going.

Output 8: Strategic Spatial Planning Framework for the Socio-Economic Revitalisation of the

Maysan and Eastern Hammar Marshes that aims to improve access to the marshlands and nearby cultural heritage sites and enhance livelihood opportunities for the long-term socio-economic revitalization of the area developed, drafted and disseminated, along with visually enticing maps and illustrations.

- Research for material and desk review of relevant reports has been completed.
- The outline of the report is under discussion.

4.3. Challenges, lessons learned & best practices

- The commencement of the project was hindered by in-country UN staff movement restrictions due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and quarantine measures that delayed UN missions to Basra.
- The new working modalities for government employees (only 25% of staff were allowed to work from office with fewer working hours) imposed by the Iraqi government in March 2021 delayed the setup of meetings with the local authorities. Online meetings were not favoured.
- UN-Habitat's field team struggled for over 6 months to obtain all the necessary approvals and paperwork finalising the choice of the two suitable plots of land for the construction of the tourism orientation facility. Consistently, every time a site was identified by counterparts, after a couple of days new land claims or security issues emerged and the negotiations had to start all over again. In both locations, the proposed land changed even after the contractors' pre-bid site visits. The team had to exert a very high degree of flexibility and diplomacy.
- The lack of a clear geo-referenced property map and tribal claims risked derailing the projects several times and created much uncertainty.
- Local NGOs did not respond to UN-Habitat's Call for Proposals for the conduction of participatory design workshops and construction of the tourist facilities. The team had to launch a public solicitation to private sector contractors. This delayed the start of the works by a couple of months. With more time, the team could have convinced NGOs to apply.

4.4. Qualitative assessment

Throughout the project duration, UN-Habitat's team worked very closely with the respective governorate officials to identify the most suitable land and design the facility. The authorities have expressed an

incredible support for such projects but had to be vigorously urged every step of the way to ensure that documents were signed in a timely manner, and the necessary authorizations provided to the team.

The successful coordination with the local stakeholders was achieved by recruiting very well connected and experienced institutional liaison staff and community mobilisers, without which the project would not have seen the light of day because of the dysfunctionalities among the multiple authorities that have a say in the management of the land and proposed activities in the marshes.

The design of the facility has prioritized traditional construction techniques and elements that do not intrude on the eco-system of the marshes.

The project has been designed to realise a public facility for tourists and service providers that will be managed by the local authorities rather than by a private venture. If deemed successful, in the future the core of the facility could grow organically or replicated in other locations.

5. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Monitoring Platform (UN-Habitat)

• Objectives and Rationale

The project supports both the Government of Iraq and the UN Country Team, as well as all actors that are engaged in the SDGs in Iraq, by providing a comprehensive and up-to-date data platform that enables strategic and integrated planning, monitoring and coordination of projects and activities in Iraq that are relevant to the SDGs.

The general framework of Iraq's National Development Plan 2018-2022 is to establish the foundations of an effective development state with social responsibility, which is in line with the concept of the SDGs. Objective 9 of the National Development Plan 2018-2022 states to "Boost sustainable human development indicators", which is directly relevant to the proposed project.

Furthermore, in Iraq Vision 2030, which was published in February 2019 and serves as a road map for development in Iraq, the Government of Iraq confirmed that the SDGs act as a comprehensive framework for Iraq's development process, and the

Government, under the leadership of the Ministry of Planning, will set up an institutional mechanism to monitor the implementation of the SDGs.

The General Assembly Resolution 72/279 on the UN development system repositioning requested that the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) to be elevated as the most important instrument for planning and implementation of UN development activities in each country, in support of the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to be prepared and finalized in full consultation and agreement with national Governments.

- **Assessment of Programme Results**

The overall objective of the project is to ensure effective implementation of the SDGs by the Government of Iraq. To achieve that objective, the project expects to achieve the following results:

Outcomes: Government capacity for coordinating, monitoring, and reporting on the implementation of the SDGs is enhanced.

Output 1: A digital data platform providing up-to-date information, mapping, and thematic information on the implementation of the SDGs in Iraq is established and accessible by the government, donors, and international organizations.

- The platform was established and accessible at <https://iqforum.mop.gov.iq/>
- This platform linked with all platforms such as the Central Statistical Organization platform, the National Platform for Construction and Development and other relative platforms.

Output 2: Coordination mechanism for collecting information on projects and activities in Iraq related to the SDGs is established and operational.

- Coordination mechanism between Ministry of Planning and governorates is established.
- All activities related to SDGs are updated by the team of the Ministry of Planning, while Directorate of Local and Regional Development takes the responsibility of collecting information from governorates through its departments in governorates.

Output 3: Staff members of the governmental counterparts are trained to operate and manage the Platform.

- A total number of 40 governmental staff were trained reflected as one staff member per governorate and 25 staff from the Ministry of Planning.
- Five of the Ministry staff trained as “training of trainers”.

- **Qualitative assessment:**

Throughout the project duration and after the completion of the project, UN-Habitat has been working very closely with the Ministry of Planning to develop, finalize and operate the Platform. The Platform provides up-to-date key information on SDGs, and through the Platform, the Government of Iraq is able to interact with general public, researchers, and international communities to promote dialogue and strengthen partnerships with various actors.

This forum is designed and developed as a platform for communication regarding sustainable development, reflected through its real and virtual components. Among what the forum achieves on a realistic level, is to provide information on sustainable development indicators through linking with all platforms such as the Central Statistical Organization platform, the National Platform for Constructing and Development and other relative platforms, in addition to raising the awareness of citizens in general, in a way that consolidates the concepts of sustainable development at one hand, and the possibility of communication by all groups with higher authorities of decision-makers, depending on the outputs of the opinion poll provided by the platform on the other hand.

At the virtual level, the platform will provide a virtual library of the outputs of relevant seminars, conferences, and workshops, as well as the establishment of virtual scientific seminars and the dissemination of scientific research related to sustainable development to raise and develop capabilities and innovation as a final outcome in this regard.

5.4 Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned

UN-Habitat through its distinguished partnership with MoP develop a self- assessment questionnaire to collect feedback information on the project’s

implementing, sustainability and future plan. The results of assessment were as follow:

Project implementation; Ministry of Planning as a lead of National Committee for SDGs take the responsibility of supervision to design the Forum, specify the technical functions, and agreed on the capacity building program. Despite the delay in getting the required internal approvals from MoP, the project met all the specified deadline by the high management authorities. The project implementation team organized many meetings and two workshops to introduce the project to the governorate focal points.

From other side, UN-Habitat as a member of UN Working Group of SDGs has been presented the project to the UN sister agencies to coordinate and avoid duplicate efforts.

Sustainability; The project is adopted by National Committee for SDGs and assigned the management of the project to dedicated team that one of its responsibilities is reporting on the progress of the country on achieving the SDGs, the platform is considered as a supporting tool to help the government and its counterparts to collect and disseminate and monitor the achievements of SDGs.

The platform is suitable for MoP infrastructure and resources availability, the tool's components is an open-source technologies and will not need budget to ensure sustainable operation. The tool is hosted on the MoP's main hosting server. The staff is getting all the required technical training to ensure manage the platform.

A recommendation is raised to high management to keep the administration of this platform at the Local and Regional Development Directorate as the specialized body in MoP of reporting on SDGs.

Future plan; due to time and budget limitation, the project focus on establishing the platform, develop the data collection methodology, and building capacity to ensure running of the platform. Expected development will be needed on data collection process from governorates and stakeholders. Tracking the achievements and monitor the SDGs activities will need more development on the design to show statistics, maps and infographics. Raising awareness, media and communication should be continuously renewed.

Since the time the project was approved; UN-Habitat started communicating with the Ministry of Planning to initiate the formation of a joint tasks force to move forward with the implementation of the project. There was a delay in obtaining official approvals from the ministry to ensure that the platform's work did not interfere with the rest of the platforms within the ministry. This delay affected the implementation of the activities according to the schedule prepared in advance, but with close coordination and follow up meetings with top management in the ministry, issues were resolved, and the task force is established.

As the platform opens the horizon for the Ministry of Planning to monitor and report on implementation, new components have been requested by the Ministry of Planning to be added to the platform as the document's library, video's library, and forum to communicate and interact with audiences. The new components shaped the new name of the platform to be the "[Iraq Forum for Sustainable Development](#)". UN-Habitat provided an advanced training programmes for the governmental counterparts during the different implementation stages of the project to qualify the technical staff of the Ministry of Planning to secure the continuity of operating and managing the Platform after the handover.

As an important lesson learned from previous projects, 'training of trainers' component in addition to the existing 'learning-by-doing' component of training is considered, the selected staff from the Ministry are able to train other focal points from governorates and other institutions.

II. CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT

INTRODUCTION

This Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund is prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) in fulfillment of its obligations as Administrative Agent, as per the terms of Reference (TOR), the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the UNDP MPTF Office and the Participating Organizations, and the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) signed with contributors.

The MPTF Office, as Administrative Agent, is responsible for concluding an MOU with Participating Organizations and SAAs with contributors. It receives, administers and

manages contributions, and disburses these funds to the Participating Organizations. The Administrative Agent prepares and submits annual consolidated financial reports, as well as regular financial statements, for transmission to stakeholders.

This consolidated financial report covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2021 and provides financial data on progress made in the implementation of projects of the Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund. It is posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<https://beta.mptf.undp.org/fund/irq00>).

2021 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the **Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund** using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December 2021. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address: <https://beta.mptf.undp.org/fund/irq00>.

1. SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

As of 31 December 2021, 23 contributors deposited US\$ 45,695,182 and US\$ 409,574 was earned in interest.

The cumulative source of funds was US\$ 46,104,755.

Of this amount, US\$ 45,572,854 has been net funded to 12 Participating Organizations, of which US\$ 44,219,575 has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US\$ 456,952. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the **Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund** as of 31 December 2021.

Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2021 (in US Dollars)

	Annual 2020	Annual 2021	Cumulative
Sources of Funds			
Contributions from donors	0	0	45,695,182
Sub-total Contributions	0	0	45,695,182
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	27,526	2,523	385,787
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations	0	9,896	23,786
Total: Sources of Funds	27,526	12,419	46,104,755
Use of Funds			
Transfers to Participating Organizations	0	2,497,400	46,014,610
Refunds received from Participating Organizations	(24,199)	(59,759)	(496,323)
Net Funded Amount	(24,199)	2,437,641	45,518,287
Administrative Agent Fees	0	0	456,952
Direct Costs	0	0	54,567
Bank Charges	73	18	2,750
Total: Uses of Funds	(24,126)	2,437,659	46,032,557
Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent	51,652	(2,425,240)	72,199
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	2,445,786	2,497,439	
Closing Fund balance (31 December)	2,497,439	72,199	72,199
Net Funded Amount (Includes Direct Cost)	(24,199)	2,437,641	45,572,854
Participating Organizations Expenditure (Includes Direct Cost)	687,312	1,152,877	44,219,575
Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations	(711,512)	1,284,764	1,353,279

2. PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this fund as of 31 December 2021.

The **Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund** is currently being financed by 23 contributors, as listed in the table below.

The table includes financial commitments made by the contributors through signed Standard Administrative Agreements with an anticipated deposit date as per the schedule of payments by 31 December 2021 and deposits received by the same date.

Table 2. Contributions, as of 31 December 2021 (in US Dollars)

Contributors	Total Commitments	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2020 Deposits	Current Year Jan-Dec-2021 Deposits	Total Deposits
Government of Australia	1,508,542	1,508,542	0	1,508,542
Government of Belgium	62,934	62,934	0	62,934
Former – CIDA	3,038,778	3,038,778	0	3,038,778
Government of Denmark	9,879,518	9,879,518	0	9,879,518
Government of Finland	366,859	366,859	0	366,859
Government of Greece	172,928	172,928	0	172,928
Government of Iceland	23,820	23,820	0	23,820
Government of India	238,205	238,205	0	238,205
Government of Ireland	58,427	58,427	0	58,427
Government of Italy	1,869,040	1,869,040	0	1,869,040
Government of Japan	17,196,013	17,196,013	0	17,196,013
Government of Kuwait	238,205	238,205	0	238,205
Government of Luxembourg	110,475	110,475	0	110,475
Government of Netherlands	319,051	319,051	0	319,051
Government of New Zealand	160,305	160,305	0	160,305
Government of Norway	333,929	333,929	0	333,929
Government of Qatar	238,205	238,205	0	238,205
Government of Republic of Korea	1,000,459	1,000,459	0	1,000,459
Government of Spain	4,438,857	4,438,857	0	4,438,857
SIDA	3,288,930	3,288,930	0	3,288,930
The Scottish Government	484,731	484,731	0	484,731
Government of Turkey	428,768	428,768	0	428,768
USAID	238,205	238,205	0	238,205
Grand Total	45,695,182	45,695,182	0	45,695,182

3. INTEREST EARNED

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent (Fund earned interest), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations (Agency earned interest) where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the AA.

As of 31 December 2021, Fund earned interest amounts to US\$ 385,787.

Interest received from Participating Organizations amounts to US\$ 23,786, bringing the cumulative interest received to US\$ 409,574. Details are provided in the table below.

Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2021 (in US Dollars)

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec- 2020	Current Year Jan-Dec-2021	Total
Administrative Agent			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	383,265	2,523	385,787
Total: Fund Earned Interest	383,265	2,523	385,787
Participating Organization			
ESCWA	0	9,896	9,896
FAO	36		36
UNESCO	13,854		13,854
Total: Agency earned interest	13,890	9,896	23,786
Grand Total	397,155	12,419	409,574

4. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2021, the AA has transferred US\$ **46,014,610** to **12** Participating Organizations (see list below).

Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2020			Current Year Jan-Dec-2021			Total		
	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded
ESCWA	717,608	(48,317)	669,291	0	9,896	9,896	717,608	(38,421)	679,187
FAO	140,000	(11,560)	128,440				140,000	(11,560)	128,440
IOM				381,250	0	381,250	381,250	0	381,250
UNWOMEN	2,061,895	0	2,061,895				2,061,895	0	2,061,895
UNDP	22,022,086	(266,929)	21,755,157	678,750	(69,655)	609,095	22,700,836	(336,584)	22,364,252
UNEP	140,000	(33,169)	106,831	140,000	0	140,000	280,000	(33,169)	246,831
UNESCO	2,932,229	(23,806)	2,908,423				2,932,229	(23,806)	2,908,423
UNFPA	2,911,094	0	2,911,094				2,911,094	0	2,911,094
UNHABITAT	3,293,947	0	3,293,947	1,150,950	0	1,150,950	4,444,897	0	4,444,897
UNICEF	5,047,947	(3,017)	5,044,930	146,450	0	146,450	5,194,397	(3,017)	5,191,380
UNOPS	1,038,592	(48,565)	990,027				1,038,592	(48,565)	990,027
WHO	3,211,812	(1,200)	3,210,612				3,211,812	(1,200)	3,210,612
Grand Total	43,517,210	(436,563)	43,080,647	2,497,400	(59,759)	2,437,641	46,014,610	(496,323)	45,518,287

5. EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL DELIVERY RATES

All final expenditures reported are submitted as certified financial information by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

Joint programme/ project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization, and are reported to the Administrative Agent as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The expenditures are reported via the MPTF Office's online expenditure reporting tool. The **2021** expenditure data has been posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY at <https://beta.mptf.undp.org/fund/irq00>.

5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

In **2021**, US\$ **2,437,641** was net funded to Participating Organizations, and US\$ **1,152,877** was reported in expenditure.

As shown in the table below, the cumulative net funded amount is US\$ **45,518,287** and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to US\$ **44,165,008**. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of **97.03** percent.

Table 5.1. Net Funded Amount and Reported Expenditures by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2021 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure		Delivery Rate %	
			Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2020	Current Year Jan-Dec-2021		
ESCWA	717,608	679,187	679,315	(128)	679,187	100.00
FAO	140,000	128,440	128,440		128,440	100.00
IOM	381,250	381,250		202,091	202,091	53.01
UNDP	22,700,836	22,364,252	21,686,202	282,848	21,969,050	98.23
UNEP	280,000	246,831	106,831	127,978	234,809	95.13
UNESCO	2,932,229	2,908,423	2,908,423		2,908,423	100.00
UNFPA	2,911,094	2,911,094	2,911,094		2,911,094	100.00
UNHABITAT	4,444,897	4,444,897	3,284,363	393,638	3,678,001	82.75
UNICEF	6,970,598	5,191,380	5,044,930	146,450	5,191,380	100.00
UNOPS	1,038,592	990,027	990,027		990,027	100.00
UNWOMEN	2,061,932	2,061,895	2,061,895		2,061,895	100.00
WHO	3,211,812	3,210,612	3,210,612		3,210,612	100.00
Grand Total	47,790,848	45,518,287	43,012,131	1,152,877	44,165,008	97.03

5.2. Expenditures Reported by Category

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. In 2006 the UN Development Group (UNSDG) established six categories against which UN entities must report inter-agency project expenditures. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB) modified these categories as a result of IPSAS adoption to comprise eight categories. See table below.

Table 5.2. Expenditure by UNSDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2021 (in US Dollars)

Category	Expenditures			Percentage of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2020	Current Year Jan-Dec-2021	Total	
Personnel (Old)	5,599	-	5,599	0.01
Staff & Personnel Cost	12,717,750	366,750	13,084,500	31.72
Supplies, commodities and materials	353,318	61,868	415,186	1.01
Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation	542,620	87,150	629,770	1.53
Contractual Services Expenses	11,975,054	323,491	12,298,544	29.82
Travel	3,713,270	47,002	3,760,272	9.12
Transfers and Grants	2,620,451	-	2,620,451	6.35
General Operating	8,241,692	190,383	8,432,075	20.44
Programme Costs Total	40,169,753	1,076,645	41,246,398	100.00
¹ Indirect Support Costs Total	2,842,379	76,232	2,918,611	7.08
Grand Total	43,012,131	1,152,877	44,165,008	

1 Indirect Support Costs charged by Participating Organization, based on their financial regulations, can be deducted upfront or at a later stage during implementation. The percentage may therefore appear to exceed the 7% agreed-upon for on-going projects. Once projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.

6. COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2021, were as follows:

- The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:** 1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. In the reporting period US\$ 00 was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2021, US\$ 456,952 has been charged in AA-fees.
- Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:** Participating Organizations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period US\$ 76,232 was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US\$ 2,918,611 as of 31 December 2021.

8. DIRECT COSTS

The Fund governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organization to cover costs associated with Fund coordination covering overall coordination, and fund level reviews and evaluations. These allocations are referred to as 'direct costs'. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2021, US\$ 54,567 has been charged as Direct Costs.

Participating Organization	Current Year Net Funded Amount	Current Year Expenditure	Total Net Funded Amount	Total Expenditure
UNDP			54,567	54,567
Total			54,567	54,567

7. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<https://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

Annex 1. EXPENDITURE BY PROJECT WITHIN SECTOR

Annex 1 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by sector by project/ joint programme and Participating Organization.

Annex 1 Expenditure by Project within Sector

Cluster / Project No. and Project Title	Participating Organization	Project Status	Total Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Total Expenditure	Delivery Rate %	
Economic Growth							
00125810	Socio-Economic Development of the Maysan and Eastern Hammar Marshes	UNHABITAT	On Going	721,700	721,700	(2,221)	-0.31
Economic Growth: Total			721,700	721,700	(2,221)	-0.31	
Environment							
00079817	P3-01 Env/Drought Risk Management (DRM) and Sand Dust Storm Programme (SDS) in Iraq	FAO	Financially Closed	140,000	128,440	128,440	100.00
00079817	P3-01 Env/Drought Risk Management (DRM) and Sand Dust Storm Programme (SDS) in Iraq	UNDP	Financially Closed	264,883	264,604	264,604	100.00
00079817	P3-01 Env/Drought Risk Management (DRM) and Sand Dust Storm Programme (SDS) in Iraq	UNEP	Financially Closed	140,000	106,831	106,831	100.00
00079817	P3-01 Env/Drought Risk Management (DRM) and Sand Dust Storm Programme (SDS) in Iraq	UNESCO	Financially Closed	215,001	208,854	208,854	100.00
00127213	Sustainable Solutions of Compost Production from Organic Waste in Iraq - Karbala Governorate	UNDP	Operationally Closed	460,000	460,000	65,109	14.15
00127213	Sustainable Solutions of Compost Production from Organic Waste in Iraq - Karbala Governorate	UNEP	Operationally Closed	140,000	140,000	127,978	91.41
Environment: Total			1,359,884	1,308,729	901,815	68.91	
Governance and Human Rights							
00081967	P1-01 Gov/Empowering CSOs in Iraq	UNDP	Financially Closed	2,221,818	2,179,187	2,179,187	100.00
00081968	P1-02 Family Protection, Support, Justice and Security for Survivors of Domestic and Gender Based Violence	UNDP	Operationally Closed	2,467,880	2,425,226	2,425,926	100.03

00081968	P1-02 Family Protection, Support, Justice and Security for Survivors of Domestic and Gender Based Violence	UNICEF	Operationally Closed	2,296,228	1,496,983	1,496,983	100.00
00081969	P1-03 Gov/ID of Anti-Corruption Academy	UNDP	Financially Closed	2,727,273	2,629,927	2,629,927	100.00
00082895	P1-04 Gov/ Enhancing Transparent Participatory Governance and Human Rights	UNDP	Financially Closed	3,091,526	3,007,507	3,007,507	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	ESCWA	Operationally Closed	717,608	679,187	679,187	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNDP	Operationally Closed	9,483,844	9,414,189	9,414,027	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNESCO	Operationally Closed	2,717,228	2,699,569	2,699,569	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNFPA	Operationally Closed	2,161,094	2,161,094	2,161,094	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNHABITAT	Operationally Closed	2,393,947	2,393,947	2,197,634	91.80
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNICEF	Operationally Closed	4,527,920	3,547,947	3,547,947	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNWOMEN	Operationally Closed	1,311,932	1,311,932	1,311,932	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	WHO	Operationally Closed	3,211,812	3,210,612	3,210,612	100.00
00087994	P1-06 Gov/Support to IHEC ph.2	UNDP	Financially Closed	1,764,862	1,764,862	1,764,862	100.00
00087994	P1-06 Gov/Support to IHEC ph.2	UNOPS	Financially Closed	1,038,592	990,027	990,027	100.00
00111133	P1-07 Gov/Youth and Prevention of Violent Extremism	UNFPA	Operationally Closed	750,000	750,000	750,000	100.00
00111134	P1-08 Gov/Invigorating Women's	UNWOMEN	Financially Closed	750,000	749,963	749,963	100.00
00111182	P1-09 Gov/Recovery, Reconstruction and Resilience Data	UNHABITAT	Operationally Closed	900,000	900,000	1,212,358	134.71
00125811	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Monitoring Platform	UNHABITAT	Operationally Closed	429,250	429,250	270,230	62.95
00127216	Supporting Migration in Iraq	IOM	Operationally Closed	381,250	381,250	202,091	53.01
00127216	Supporting Migration in Iraq	UNDP	Operationally Closed	218,750	218,750	217,901	99.61
00129029	Iraq SDG Communication Campaign	UNICEF	Operationally Closed	146,450	146,450	146,450	100.00
Governance and Human Rights: Total				45,709,264	43,487,858	43,265,414	99.49
Grand Total				47,790,848	45,518,287	44,165,008	97.03

