



 **UN
WOMEN** 



Planet 50-50 by 2030
Step It Up for Gender Equality

Operational Response at Country Level: Iraq

Briefing to the Executive Board
First Regular Session 2019

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ICO Context & Key Milestones

2013 : VAW Strategy and National Women strategy

2014 : INAP (First in the region)

2016 Country Office & 1st SN developed



2005

25% women quota introduced

Six women ministers



2011-2015

Programme Presence



2013- 2016

- DOA & Office Scale up
- Systems and processes in place
- New political context post ISIL liberation:
 - Parliamentary elections + New Government
- Solid partnerships with all stakeholders



2019

- Beijing + 25
- CSW 63
- New SN
- UNDAF
- INAP II
- Economic Empowerment Strategy & implementation plan

Evolution of ICO as a “convener” and a “one stop shop”

Global

Beijing +25

CSW “ Women rebuilding
Iraq”

National

Strengthening Women Machinery

National Strategy for the
advancement of Women

Reconstruction & Stabilization Plan



Humanitarian - Peace & Security

1. Refugees and IDPs women: cash for work and livelihood services, GBV multi-sectoral services through women's safe spaces & shelters, setting up income generation projects, business grants and job placements in the north and central of Iraq for economic empowerment purposes.
2. Advocating for the participation of women in peace negotiations and reconciliation building .
3. Second National Action Plan (NAP) on the implementation of the SCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security

A pink pushpin is pinned to the top center of a light green sticky note.

Leadership & Political Participation

1. Post ISIL phase: setting up programmes to enhance the technical capacities of women in leadership positions and supporting:
 - Women committees & parliamentary caucus
 - The foreign affairs institute
 - The parliamentary institute
2. Engaging with the Iraqi leadership to emphasize the importance of supporting the GEWE agenda (creation of a women caucus, Women Quota, Ministry of Women affairs,...etc)



Economic Empowerment

1. At the conflict stage, the focus was to provide swift livelihood and economic opportunities for empowering women and enhancing their resilience under conflict.
2. With the stabilization of the situation, ICO has been engaging with a wider array of national stakeholders the legislative and policy level to develop a national economic empowerment national action plan and eventually an implementation plan in partnership with the World Bank (WB).
3. This work is consistent with the Iraq's Second Poverty Reduction Strategy and the Social Protection Strategic Framework

The office has succeeded in positioning itself as a “one stop shop” and a “knowledge broker” providing demand-driven substantial advice to the government, Women machineries, donor community and embassies in the form of policy & programmatic advice, research & evidence-based data and knowledge products.



Key Partnerships

Broker of collaboration: Bridge between Civil Society , Government & other sister agencies

Government

Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, High Council of Women's Affairs, Department for Women Empowerment (DWO), Higher commission on the advancement of women ,Ministry of Finance

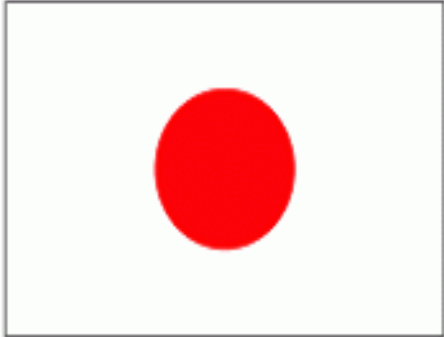
CSOs

Tadjeed, Women Empowerment Organization (WEO), Baghdad Women Association (BWA), Women Leadership Institute (WLI), Bustan Association for Children & Adult Protection, Iraqi Women Journalist Forum, Voice of Older People and Families, Um-Alyateem for Development Foundation, Iraqi Minorities Council, Sawa Organization for Human Rights
OXFAM ,REACH ,ASUDA,.....etc

UN Agencies

RCO
UNAMI
UNDP
UNFPA
UNESCO
UNOPS
FAO

Donor Support



Gov . Of Japan



EU



Gov. of Finland



DRL



WORLD BANK

Continuous Engagement with Iraqi Leadership for restoring the Ministry of Women affairs, strengthening the Iraqi women machinery and the application of a 25% women representation quota at the highest executive levels.



With Prime Minister Adel Abdel Mahdi

With President Barham Salih



With the Speaker of the Council of Representatives, Mohammed Al-Halbousi,



Meeting with H.E. Safia Al-Souhail, Iraq Ambassador to Jordan



MPs announce Core Group for Iraqi Women Parliamentarians Caucus



Provision of cross-sectoral gender mainstreaming expertise (such as research, data and evidence based policy advice on gender mainstreaming) to other UN agencies as well as the international community



Documenting success stories and business best practices as regards to GEWE



Engagement & Technical support in the development of the upcoming UNDAF






Provision of technical expertise & capacity development support to national women machineries (the Supreme commission on the advancement of women, the Department of Women empowerment and the High commission for women affairs)



Strengthen strategic partnerships with key stakeholders at the national and local levels, including grass-roots women's and youth movements through its two offices in Baghdad and Erbil

Risks

-  Continued fluid security situation and the high levels of instability in Iraq
-  Continued frictions between the different streams and segments in Iraq
-  Women reluctance to approach services due to general fear, stigma

Mitigation Measures

-  Close monitoring to security situation & develop risk and contingency plans
-  More engagement with key stakeholders through participatory approaches to ensure ownership and sustainability.
-  Expanding community-based activities to raise awareness of and access to GBV services

Key Lessons Learnt

**Building Trust- UN
Women a partner of
choice**

**Knock door missions &
Outreach to all Iraqi
segments and factions**

**Targeted Advocacy
Efforts**

Meeting our own stability &
development needs, while
continuing to respond to the
humanitarian crises in the region
in a coordinated manner

Iraq 2019 Budget at a glance

The 2019 AWP has a total budget of **around 10 million USD** reflecting successful implementation and resource mobilization efforts since the office establishment

With the continued restructuring and scaling up, the ICO is well placed to deliver on this increased 2019 budget to implement across UN Women's triple mandate.





Thank You



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