



DRAFT

Sector Midterm Review Report

Sector: *Protection Sector*

Reporting period: January 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009

A) OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS UNCT OUTCOME

UNCT OUTCOME
Strengthened protection system and services
Standardized mechanism for monitoring and reporting on HR/IHL violations operational across Iraq.
No of initiatives to improve human rights capacity of Iraqi Government/state officials and NGOs.
National legislation, policies and codes ensure non discriminatory access to justice and public services for all persons on the territory of Iraq.

B) OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS SECTOR OUTCOMES

Suggested Indicators			
Number of joint initiatives that become fully supported by the Gol			
Number of periodic reports submitted to treaty bodies			
Number of international human rights treaties ratified			
Displacement and return data and trend analysis is available and updated regularly			
(a) Area (Km2) of contaminated land made safe for use; (b) number of at-risk population educated about the dangers of landmines/unexploded ordnances; (c) number of persons with disabilities including landmine/ERW victims received physical rehabilitation, repair/maintenance, and socio-economic support services.			
SECTOR OUTCOME 1			
Improved protection of civilians throughout Iraq and creation of an environment which contributes to the observance of human rights for all Iraqis and mitigates the effects of forced displacement			
Outcome Indicators (Revised and/or suggested)	Baseline	Target	Status as of 3/2009
1. National legislation, policies and codes ensure non-discriminatory access to justice and public services for all persons of concerns			Adoption of National Policy on displacement (July 2008) - Revision of Refugee Act progress and currently is at the level of the council of Shura
4. % of pre-trial and post-trial detainees of the overall inmate population decreased	0	1639	Advocacy by UNICEF and others contributed to the release of 1643 children from detention
5. : Displacement data and trend analysis is available and update regularly			UNHCR staff and Protection Assistance centers activities (14 centers and 35 mobile team) inform about the protection environment and needs of UNHCR (Persons of concern) MoDM informed on all relevant updates in terms of IDPs and returnees figures and envisaged actions. IOM IDP and returnee monitoring teams conduct group and family-level interviews which provided information for more than 40 widely-distributed displacement assessment reports
6: Increase in Gol led responses to initiatives providing support and protection to vulnerable populations		yes	3,765 (1804 male & 1961 female) social workers, teachers, family and community members have received training on child

			protection.
			49,554 (29,962 male & 19,592 female) children have received various protection services through UNICEF support.
7: % of mine/ERW-free territory increased (explosive remnants of war)	3% calculated by 60 km2 cleared by Dec 07 out of 1,730 km2 identified as contaminated	5% estimated to clear 84 km2 by Dec 08	Minimum 4.3% (Due to limited time to send this results reporting matrix, we were unable to consult other clearance operators.)
	300,000	350,000 (2008 and 2009)	- Total 276,658 (109,812 men, 27,453 women, 73,966 boys and 65,427 girls) have received MRE and knowledge on risk and safety behaviors; at least 850 teachers (300 female and 550 male) and 300 other key actors, and 800 children (150 girls and 650 boys) trained on MRE and have skills.

Narrative Analysis of progress:

Outcome1/ Indicator 1: National legislation, policies and codes ensure non discriminatory access to justice and public services for all persons on the territory of Iraq

The following outputs contribute to the indicator above:

Output 1.1: Specific legislation, policies and codes developed and reviewed, and recommendations submitted for required amendments, in line with international laws, standards and principles

A conference was held in Baghdad in July 2008 to launch the National Policy on Displacement. The National Policy provides a framework on protection of basic rights for displaced persons, including the right to participate in decision-making processes, protection against arbitrary displacement, legal status and official recognition as IDPs, rights to property restitution and compensation, and access to health care and job opportunities. The National Policy also outlines basic needs of the displaced population, and covers different roles and responsibilities. Discussions during the Conference included assistance to and protection of IDPs, property restitution, durable solutions to displacement, and Iraqis abroad. These discussions were translated in recommendations to be included in the National Policy's implementation plan.

As for the sector's activities on advocacy, advocating with authorities for persons of concern's access to NFIs, adequate services and enhanced infrastructure took place; until end of 2008, Identification of interventions, targeted immediate and medium-term assistance projects. IDPs and in particular women were included in vocational/income-generation training, financial assistance and micro-credit projects.

Moreover, 3,830 mobile team visits to villages, settlements, public buildings, collective centers, camps and communities to assess needs and to pre-identify potential projects.

Output 1.2: Awareness increased among Government, non-state actors, civil society and civilian population and other stakeholders on human rights and international humanitarian law

UNHCR's Protection Assistance Centers (PACs) organized various activities such as workshops (71), briefings (41), trainings (22), information campaigns (51), meetings (12), interviews with TV Networks and newspapers and posters were means to raise awareness about protection of populations of concerns and in particular on women and children, SGBV, elections, displacement, human rights and health issues (hygiene, HIV and cholera to prevent the spread of diseases).

On the occasion of International Day for the Elimination of violence against women (VAW), two national conferences were conducted jointly with UNFPA, International Rescue Committee (IRC), and Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) on the situation of VAW in Iraq. The activity represented 500 participants from GOs, NGOs, lawyers and judges, Civilian Society Organizations (CSOs), women's organizations, journalists, and community leader activists.

Referring to the International Woman Day, UNFPA organized a number of activities in some Iraqi provinces to renew its commitment to women issues. Three activities have been conducted, one in Baghdad in cooperation with the Office of the Vice President of Iraq, Ministry of Culture, and Ministry of Woman Affairs. The second activity took place in Kurdistan in cooperation with Ministry of Woman Affairs and a number of institutions in the North, and the third one was held in Basra, in close collaboration with the Women Leader Institute and a number of civil society organizations. In this context, the sector distributed through UNFPA two documents; one titled "Women in armed conflicts and Peace Building based on UN Security Council Resolution 1325"; the other is titled "Integrating women and achievement of equality for development and peace". In addition, a documentary titled "*We dream in Peaceful Tomorrow and Lasting Peace*" was presented, which reflects the situation of Iraqi women and their role in maintaining peace and development. The film was produced by UNFPA-Iraq office.

Output 1.4: Vulnerable groups have increased access to legal aid services and alternative justice mechanisms, including alternatives to detention

UNHCR's PACs network positive contribution to the establishment of sustainable protection mechanisms by the government, civil society and communities where some 30,348 (of which 38% were women) individuals benefited from PAC legal assistance services to ensure access to basic rights, documentation retrieval, personal status, inheritance and also through court proceedings. Moreover, About 900 protection monitoring assessments informed UNHCR interventions and referrals. More individuals were assisted through UNHCR (shelter, NFI, protection) or a referral ad-hoc system where 7,965 beneficiaries were referred to PACs and PAC staff referred 10,417 cases to other service providers, NGOs, UNHCR, MoDM, IRC and other PACs.

1 training for 25 lawyers, one workshop was held for 60 juvenile police and social workers, UNICEF just signed a new project agreement on Juvenile Justice with an international NGO

Output 1.9: The protection of refugees inside Iraq is improved

No asylum seeker or refugees refoulement occurred, 90% newly arrived IDPs were registered, 100% of newborns were issued birth certificates, all reported SGBV cases were assisted in their needs, 2266 individuals (1100 females and 1166 males) were submitted for resettlement (*Corresponds also to Outcome1/ Indicator 5: Displacement data and trend analysis is available and updated regularly*).

Outcome 1/ Indicator 2: Number and timeliness of periodic reports submitted to treaty bodies

The following outputs contribute to the indicator above:

Output 1.5: Harmonized systems for monitoring and reporting on protection issues are set up, and findings of reports and studies (including baseline data) are made available

Working under the umbrella of the Protection Sector, the multi-agency working Group led by UNICEF established the established a mechanism for monitoring and reporting (MRM) on grave child rights violations using the frame work of the Security Council Resolution 1612 and the implementation of the MRM has started. The UN Country Team has endorsed the mechanism and has formed a Task Force for the MRM. By the time of reporting some 60 UN and NGO staff had already received orientation on MRM.

Jointly with UNFPA and UNIFEM a workshop was conducted on enabling Iraq to fulfill its commitment to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The workshop provided the trainees practical and theoretical skills to enable them to prepare national reports and shadow report on CEDAW. 40 trainees from NGOs, GOs, COSIT, parliament committee, and CSOs attended the workshop, in which regional experts from Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, and Jordan also participated.

Training in methodology, report writing and data analysis was provided in partnership with the Egypt National Council for women in Cairo in June 2008 for the Iraq CEDAW reporting committee (supervised by the Ministry of Human Rights) and for local NGO's. Further support is provided by a gender expert and consultant hired by UNIFEM to assist the CEDAW drafting committee.

A national survey of women's health and social status (covering 20,000 households in Iraq) was discussed with three ministries (Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Services, and Women's Affairs) and COSIT, including a module on domestic social violence against women and young females. The questionnaire is currently in its final stage. Data collection was delayed to early 2010 due to the population and housing census.

IOM issues monthly updates on displacement and return along with other reports such as in-depth governorate profiles, returnee reports, tent-camp reports, yearly and mid-year reviews. These reports are distributed to government officials, donor countries, UN agencies and other international and local NGOs in order to assure that assistance effectively targets the most vulnerable IDP and returnee families.

Between January 2008 and March 2009 UNHCR strengthened protection monitoring and interventions through collaboration with MoDM and municipal councils in each Governorate. Eight Governorate Emergency cells have been established in Dohuk, Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, Babylon, Kerbala, Wassit, Missan, Thi-Qar. UNHCR's reports are shared with donors and the full range of actors to assure that assistance targets the most vulnerable.

Output 1.6: Humanitarian space is expanded to increase humanitarian access

Two initiatives were undertaken to increase and restore humanitarian access through interactions between UN, GoI, NGOs, IOs, non state actors, local authorities, and other stakeholders.

Outcome 1/ Indicator 6: Increase in GoI led response initiatives providing support and protection to vulnerable populations

The following outputs contribute to the indicator above:

Output 1.3: Key Iraqi authorities and civil society actors have skills and knowledge to address protection issues and facilitate conflict management

Inter-ministerial consultations were supported and a conference was held by IOM, UNHCR and USIP in Baghdad on 13-15 November 2008 on "Post-2003 Displacement and Return-related Land and Property Issues in Iraq: the Implementation of PM Order 101 and Decree 262 and Remaining Legal and Policy Issues," to analyze progress made and lessons learned during the implementation of the above-mentioned orders, as well as to collect specific recommendations relating to the provision of assistance and support to IDPs and refugees wishing to return to their places of origin. Such activities aimed to review progress and constraints encountered to date in assisting returnees from internal displacement and abroad, as well as to stimulate further policy and legal recommendations to better facilitate and manage increasing returns.

UNHCR strengthened the capacity of the network of Protection Assistance Centers (PACs) which ensures beneficiaries' access to efficient and effective services and in particular, legal protection. The PACs network consists of 14 Centers and 35 mobile teams for a total of 130 Iraqi staff (40% women).

A preliminary national stakeholder's workshop was conducted to draft a national strategy on combating VAW. The workshop includes 65 participants that presented national GOs and NGOs, policy makers, and experts from the region (Algeria, Morocco, Lebanon, and Palestinian Territories).

A study tour was conducted to assist 12 Iraqi GOs and NGOs experience through exchanging regional experiences in Tunisia and Morocco that offer social and legal services for survivors from violence. The study tour participants visited the legal, developmental, health organizations, and other organizations that

target women and girls rights.

Training materials were developed jointly with three Iraqi NGOs and with the technical assistance of Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) and Center for Arab Women Training and Research (CAWTAR) on training care providers on case management including reporting and referral, and legal management.

An assessment was conducted for 100 NGOs that provide psycho-social and legal services for women who exposed to violence. It will be finalized by the beginning of May. The assessment was implemented by two national Iraqi NGOs jointly with technical assistants of UNFPA, NCA, and three Iraqi NGOs.

Output 1.7: Children, young people, women, displaced persons, returnees and other vulnerable groups have access to protection services and other type of support

UNOPS project for the protection of detainees and torture victims is working with two Centers for the rehabilitation of Victims of Torture, one in Basra and one in Kirkuk. 646 survivors have accessed treatment. Both centers are working closely with government institutions and have coordinated a referral system which enables their patients to be treated (when needed) by government health structures. The success of the two centers the project has lead the Ministry of Human Rights to request creation of an additional center (under the Ministry's responsibility) in Najaf for the rehabilitation of torture survivors in the area. A building has been identified for the centre. The two supported and functioning centers will be available to provide capacity building to the staff of Najaf center once recruited.

Between January 2008 and March 2009 UNICEF supported projects in child protection focused on capacity development of Government counterparts, implementing partners' staff and families and key community members on the provision of child protection services. Boys and girls were also given training on self protection skills against violence. As result of these initiatives 51,197 (31,606 m&19.592f) children and young people have received protection services ranging from psychosocial support in schools, to MRE and release from detention.

Outcome 1/ Indicator 7: % of mine/ERW-free territory increased (explosive remnants of war)

The following outputs contribute to the indicator above:

Output 1.8: Mine action policy, strategy and regulatory mechanism developed, Iraqi Mine Action operational capacity strengthened and awareness raised

During the reporting period (January 2008 to March 2009), a national NGO funded by UNDP and Danish Demining Group (DDG) conducted clearance activities in Basra, and was able to complete is approximately 15.6 km². While the sector is aware that there are several operators mainly in Iraqi Kurdistan Region as well as in Baghdad whose clearance activities are contributing towards the Outcome Indicator, since not all figures are reported and recorded in IMSMA (Information Management System for Mine Action), it is difficult to report progress on this indicator in a short period of time.

To enhance the protection of children and young people against the threats f landmines and ERW a total of 109,812 men, 27,453 women, 73,966 boys and 65,427 girls and 850 teachers, have received MRE in 1,500 landmine and ERW affected communities.

The protection sector achieved targets for Output 1.8 in 2008. 200,000 children, men and women have gained knowledge on risk and safety behaviors; at least 850 teachers and 300 other key actors, and 800 children trained on MRE and have skills.

UNICEF made contributions in psychosocial support programmes, MRE and emergency child protection services. Implementation of project activities in the legal and human rights components started late in 2008 and are now beginning to gain momentum.

C) RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS IN UNCT AND/ OR SECTOR OUTCOMES (WITH RATIONALE)

- Suggested revision for **Outcome Indicator 7**: Number of square kilometers of contaminated land made safe for use; number of at-risk population educated about the danger of landmines/unexploded ordnance; and number of persons with disabilities, including landmine / explosive remnants of war victims, received physical, repair/maintenance, and socio-economic support services.
- There is a need to redefine indicators: reduce numbers, make indicators more specific, add agencies/NGOs names and match them to activities, make indicators realistically measurable (Better tools are needed for quantifying and measuring progress), and there is a need for baselines (esp. for %).
- **Output 1.1 :**
 - Since only 2 out of 8 were achieved, a more modest target is needed for 2009 (overly optimistic policy goals); the initial target of 8 is comprised as follows: UNHCR (2), UNAMI-HRO (2) and UNICEF (4).
 - The specific initiatives and pieces of legislation should be named
 - Under 1.1.2: Bilateral meetings should be removed and study tours should be added
 - 1.1.1: “Codes” was put in for UNESCO – Safety Awareness Code; the reference to codes could remain; indicator: need to place in a FN which exact legislation / codes / policies?
 - 1.1.2: the advocacy events should be related to the laws under 1.1.1. Perhaps it can be changed to advocacy/information events.
- **Output 1.2:**
 - Protection sector did not do well in this area (other than refugee day, HR day), in part because the target was too broad. Thus, a more specific target is needed.
 - Joint campaigns should be encouraged
 - 1.2.1 & 1.2.2 are more related to the government rather than civil society organizations.
- **Output 1.3:**
 - While Skills and Knowledge are measurable, “conflict management” is hard to measure (it was suggested to delete this reference to conflict management).

Output 1.2 & 1.3 to be merged: Proposed wording of merged output: *Knowledge, skills, and awareness increased among key Iraqi authorities, civil society and other non-state actors, as well as civilian population to address protection issues.*

- By combining these two outputs the division between awareness raising and enhancement of HU/ skills would be removed since some awareness raising events also have a capacity building component
- **Output 1.4:**
 - 1.4.2 and 1.4.3 are overlapping and unclear (*clarification*: 1.4.3. deals with assistance for prisoners, 1.4.2 with legal assistance to IDPs/returnees etc)
 - “role of partners” should include detailed explanations of agency and NGO roles
 - 1.4.4 is difficult to report against.
 - 1.4.5: no funding available during 2008
- **Output 1.5:**
 - 1.5.1: Reason for low output - Protection sector had been counting on quarterly UNAMI reports; UNICEF study on violence on against children not completed
 - 1.5.1 and 1.5.2.: there is some overlap
 - 1.5.3 and 1.7.4: there seems to be an overlap
 - 1.5.4: The content of the indicator has been questioned. The drafters of the indicator had in mid to reflect the need to provide guidance/checklists on the collection of human rights data as has then been developed in the context of emergency situations (e.g. template for emergency information; checklist)
 - 1.5.5: can be combined with officials or be merged with 1.5.4

- **Output 1.6:**
 - 1.6.1: Lack of reporting
 - 1.6.2 and 1.6.3 were accomplished in 2008 and could be removed for 2009.
 - 1.6.4 to be deleted.
 - Add GEC coordination and response cell establishment.
 - Number of GEC emergency cells staff – MoDM disasters managements and preparedness.
- **Output 1.7:**
 - Percentage indicators should not be used unless there is a baseline available

Output 1.4 & 1.6 & 1.7 & 1.9 to be combined: Since all deal with different types of protection services / enhancing the strengthening of protective environments; some of the outputs are phrased in a more detailed manner, while others are left broader. There was agreement that the new output must have a broader phrasing to encompass the provision of the different services/targeting of different groups with needs.

- 1.6 reads like an outcome indicator; furthermore, all of its indicators are taken care of
 - only 1.6.1 is specific – about increasing /restoring access
 - 1.6.2 could also fall under 1.5
 - 1.6.3 Accomplished in 2008
 - 1.6.4 (is a duplication of 1.6.1)
 - 1.7: add “including people in contact with the law”
 - 1.7.2: Baseline deficiency: it is hard to know the percentages! Absolute numbers would be better unless tools are in place for counting
 - Merge 1.7.4 and 1.5.3
- **Output 1.8:** It appears that there are too may indicators – but unless indicators reflect different components of the output you will not be able to present the output’s full achievement
- **Output 1.9:** While dealing with a different vulnerable group, the various services provided to refugees are very much the same. Therefore, it could be combined. This way there would only be one indicator related to refugees.

D) KEY ASSUMPTIONS, RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

KEY ASSUMPTIONS	Risks	Opportunities
<p>1. The Government of Iraq is and will be committed to provide support and protection to vulnerable people and receptive to UN advocacy.</p> <p>2. Improved and safer access to the full range of social and legal services will lead to a greater likelihood of vulnerable people being assisted.</p> <p>3. Strengthened institutional capacity of the line ministries and civil society organizations will improve response to protection needs.</p> <p>4. MNF-I will downsize and military operations will be localized.</p>	<p>1. Security issues restrict staff mobility and delay implementation of programme activities, especially activities relating to training of government and civil society organizations staff.</p> <p>2. Socio-cultural values and norms may influence the commitment of ministry of justice, interior, and endowment to Gender Based Violence law, and Lack of data cases on Gender Based Violence influence the monitoring of program impact.</p> <p>3. Humanitarian mine action organizations were not able to resume its operations since 23 December 2008 due to the Ministry of Defense (MoD) interventions.</p> <p>4. The over-reliance and dependence on the ITF and as result the protection sector of this has not diversified its fundraising base – now that the ITF is coming to end there is a danger that the protection sector might crumble.</p> <p>5. High risk of protection issues for detainees transfer from MNF-I to Iraqi authorities.</p>	<p>1. The development of child protection capacity at the Governorate level through the IMPACT project which had special child protection component that implementing partners had to comply with. The revised UN Coordination which saw the creation of a separate Protection Sector has created opportunity for child protection to be visible within UN programming.</p> <p>2. Improvements in security are allowing more accessibility to IDP and returnee communities within Iraq.</p> <p>3. Increased access to Persons of Concern (POCs).</p> <p>4. Increase in returns of refugees and IDPs.</p> <p>5. Increase access to detention centers in general.</p> <p>6. Greater consistency in UN joint programmes.</p> <p>7. Increased monitoring and data availability enhances the synergy of UN sector reporting.</p>

E) JOINT PROGRAMMES, UN CONVERGENCE AND SYNERGIES

	Protect Title	Agencies	Status and Comments
1	Programme for Combating Violence Against Women in 3 Iraqi Governorates	UNFPA, UNIFEM, UNHCR, UNAMI/HRO, WHO	PCN approved 05 Feb
2	Support to Iraq through the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism	UNOPS, HRO	PCN approved
3	Strengthening the Capacities of MoDM's Branch Offices, Return Cells and Governorate Emergency Cells	UNHCR, IOM	In pipeline

4	Strengthening Protection and Justice for Children in Iraq	UNICEF, UNFPA, HRO	The project document has just been submitted to the Steering Committee Support Office for review.
5	Protection of Human Rights Defenders and Journalists	UNOPS, HRO, UNESCO	In pipeline
6	Support to Ministry of Human Rights (MoHR) in Techniques for Mass Grave Excavation and Identification of Missing Persons	UNAMI HRO, OHCHR and UNOPS	Project document has been approved and started the implementation phase.

A joint programme between UNDP and WHO on Victim Assistance in the Northern Region started in 2007, and UNDP mine action component will end by April, whereas WHO component is expected to end by December 2009. One of the strengths of joint programme is to complement each other's activities by utilizing expertise of different agencies. However, we have seen one of the weaknesses of joint programme is to cope with difference. Another joint programme among UNICEF, WHO and UNDP on a pilot project for national injury surveillance integrating landmines/UXO victims was launched in 2007. Due to unforeseen administrative difficulties, UNDP contribution was not materialized, and the project is on-going with funding from WHO and UNICEF. While it is not a programme/project, UNDP and UNICEF are working jointly and coordinating with Ministry of Environment to finalize the report titled "Overview of Landmines and Explosive Remnants of War in Iraq, 2009." It is considered most effective when advocacy / awareness raising activities are done jointly with several UN agencies.

F) KEY LESSONS LEARNED

1. Achievements were considerable even as they did not always reach very ambitious targets that included NGO contributions. There needs to be clarity in the instructions on how to include NGO contributions.
2. To continue reinforcing capacities of stakeholders, assisting them in developing an appropriate policy framework and strategies, as well as strengthening their implementation.
3. Streamline reporting requirements and ensuring that protection sector outcome team has access to reporting outcomes.
4. Remote management is a main challenge. Projects have to rely heavily on local implementing partners as well as field staff to assess needs and monitor implementation. Creative ways to counter challenges have been identified; these include having project contracted employees in relevant ministries, and protection assistance centers (PACs) and mobile teams.
5. Protection sector has too many indicators to report on which is proven to be ineffective. A revision is needed to facilitate streamlined reporting (comprehensive and consistent) on set indicators.
6. Overall the protection sector outcome team became the forum to exchange knowledge and experience on protection risks and factors, to update on interventions, and to identify gaps to be filled.