

Terms of Reference

Inter agency Information and Analysis Unit of the RC/HC

OBJECTIVES

The Inter-agency Information and Analysis Unit is composed of analytical staff members from the different participating UN agencies and NGOs. Reporting directly to the RC/HC, the Unit aims to improve effectiveness of programming, advocacy, policy and coordination of the international response.

The Unit ensures a coordinated and over-arching analysis on key issues in Iraq including both humanitarian and development aspects. It defines a common and holistic understanding of short and long term needs in Iraq and strengthens partnerships for data collection and analysis amongst the international community, the Iraqi Government and civil society.

The Unit will:

- Increase data sharing, pool resources/expertise to facilitate data collection and analysis
- Enhance joint analyses and assessments
- Provide timely information on the situation and needs in the different geographical areas of Iraq
- Increase inter-sectoral coordination in programming and reduce intra-sectoral duplication

OUTPUTS:

- Analyze historical trends and forecast future conditions about the situation in Iraq
- Support individual agencies/NGOs facing difficulties in data collection and analysis
- Take stock of existing data and analyses with particular attention to historical and geographic perspectives.
- Reach agreement over discrepancies in findings using similar indicators and data quality issues.
- Provide a holistic picture of the situation utilizing the available data, where possible, broken down by governorate and over time.

- Identify a number of agreed-upon and meaningful/context specific indicators.
- Set up an inter agency mechanism to collect data on these indicators by governorate and analyze information on a quarterly basis.
- Ensure timely dissemination of reports and analyses conducted by the Unit and other UN Agencies/NGOs and other partners.

PRODUCTS:

- Periodic & timely inter-agency data collection and situational analyses, reports and maps (to be decided on once stock-taking exercise complete)
- Inter-agency needs assessments
- Repository of humanitarian and developmental information agreed upon and accessible online
- Webpage and dissemination strategy developed

PARTICIPATION:

Participating agencies currently include:

UNAMI

UNICEF

OCHA

WFP

UNFPA

IOM

UNHCR

FAO

UNDP

WHO

Mercy Corps

IMMAP (Information Management and Mine Action Programme)

Gender Advisor (GENCAP)

The participating agencies/partners are committed to allocate a significant proportion of the analysts' time for the first 6 months. Activities will involve a combination of group and individual work.

Our information management needs (e.g. mapping, webpage design, database management) are met primarily by UNAMI and OCHA.