

Frequently Asked Questions

The United Nations Development Programme in Iraq



WHO ARE WE?

UNDP is the United Nations global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. We are on the ground in 177 countries and territories, working with governments and people to find solutions to global and national development challenges.

WHAT DO WE DO IN IRAQ?

UNDP has been present in Iraq for more than 35 years, and currently operates under an agreement signed in 1976 between UNDP and the then Government of Iraq. With 130 national and international staff members, UNDP Iraq has its main office in Baghdad and offices in Erbil, in the Kurdistan Region and in Amman, Jordan.

Throughout our activities, we encourage the protection of human rights, and promote gender equality and the empowerment of women. We are committed to facilitating south-south cooperation, and building national capacities for sustainable human development.

WHAT ARE OUR PRIORITIES?

The current programme priorities for UNDP Iraq are:

Democratic Governance, which is focused on developing institutions and processes that respond to the needs of Iraqi citizens, including the poor, and that promote development. Our work includes strengthening Iraq's electoral and legislation systems,

promoting human rights and the rule of law and improving access to justice and public administration.

The second priority is Economic Recovery and Poverty Alleviation which is focused on promoting pro-poor, inclusive-growth and private sector development. Through our programmes we aim to promote sustainable human development by reducing poverty and generating jobs and livelihoods that help to improve the quality of life of all Iraqis. In addition, this area helps address the many environmental challenges Iraq faces seeking out and sharing best practices, providing innovative policy advice and linking partners through pilot projects.

WHO ARE OUR PARTNERS?

UNDP believes that partnerships are fundamental for building broad-based consensus, resource mobilization, and effective implementation of programmes for sustainable peace and development in Iraq. UNDP continues to build and expand its partnerships with the Government of Iraq, the Council of Representatives, civil society, media, academia, the private sector, religious and community organizations, UN agencies and international development partners.

WHERE DOES OUR MONEY COME FROM?

UNDP's work in Iraq, particularly since 2003, has been mainly funded from UNDP core resources and from various multilateral funding mechanisms, including the UNDG Iraq Trust Fund (established in 2004), and the newly established

Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund. UNDP Iraq's current bilateral donors include Australia, Belgium, Denmark, The European Commission/ European Union, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the United States.

WHAT DO WE SPEND OUR FUNDING ON?

Since 2003, UNDP has spent more than \$500 million on development projects in Iraq. Many of these projects have focused on the rehabilitation and renovation of Iraq's socio-economic infrastructure, particularly the infrastructure that was destroyed as a result of the US-led invasion in 2003.



For more information on our programmes please visit www.iq.undp.org or contact us at press.iraq@undp.org