



National Protection Cluster - IRAQ
Humanitarian Needs Overview and Response Plan 2021
Guidance Note for Partners

National Protection Cluster

Humanitarian Needs Overview and Response Plan 2021: Guidance Note for Partners

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1. Introduction

This Guidance Note presents the National Protection Cluster (NPC) strategy for the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2021, including population figures, objectives and response. Since 2019, the Iraq operation has been implementing activity-based costing (ABC) with no project submissions through the Online Project System (OPS or HPC Projects Module). In 2021, the enhanced activity-based costing approach has been adopted.

The NPC strongly recommends partners to adhere to its HRP strategy illustrated in this document. At the same time, given the strong evidence base of the 2021 Iraq Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the clear targets and priorities outlined in the HRP, donors are highly encouraged to ensure that they are/will be funding projects that align with the 2021 NPC HRP Strategy and live up to NPC standards.

The NPC remains at the disposal of partners for further assistance and support.

2. Analysis of Humanitarian Needs 2021

Over 2.3 million individuals will require protection services throughout 2021.¹ 73 per cent of the people in need are concentrated in 12 districts across six governorates.² The COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with protracted displacement, have resulted in increased protection needs and vulnerabilities. Coerced departures from displacement in camp and non-camp locations, including premature returns, often resulting in secondary displacement;³ negative coping mechanisms; trauma and psychosocial distress; a high prevalence of gender-based violence;⁴ violence against children; widespread risk of explosive hazards;⁵ and limited access to documentation and secure land tenure drive protection needs. Tribal and social tensions contribute to rights violations, including marginalization of persons with perceived affiliation with extremists.⁶

Living standards are severely affected by missing documentation as individuals cannot exercise their full basic rights. Lack of secure tenure is a main reason preventing IDPs from returning to their areas of origin, and returnees from reintegrating sustainably. Trauma, stress and anxiety continue to be serious protection concerns affecting communities, in particular women, children and persons with disabilities. Vulnerable groups, including persons with perceived affiliation to extremists, remain those most at-risk of rights violations. The physical and mental wellbeing of affected individuals has also been severely affected by COVID-19 restrictions that have impacted their freedom of movement, preventing access to basic services, including health care. Affected households have been forced to resort to negative coping mechanisms due to loss of livelihoods and employment; as result, they have been exposed to increased protection risks. Pre-existing gender and social inequalities that disadvantage women and girls have been exacerbated by the pandemic and an increase in different forms of GBV has been reported, especially domestic violence. Abuse, violence and neglect within households have been highlighted as key protection concerns also affecting children. The existence of unexploded ordnance and explosive remnants of war (ERW) continue to pose significant protection risks to the physical safety and well-being of affected groups.

3. Humanitarian Response Plan 2021 - Strategic Objectives

The 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) will have a focused target of 1.5 million people. The focus target has been arrived at through cluster-level prioritization and includes all those who remain in camps and other critical shelter and who face a multitude of humanitarian needs. For the Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2021,

¹ MCNA VIII, 2020.

² Ninewa, Erbil, Dohuk, Anbar, Kirkuk and Salah Al-Din governorates. Based on MCNA VIII, 2020 ranked by severity of protection risks.

³ Camp Closure Situation Reports (CCCM and NPC); DTM.

⁴ GBVIMS monthly report, January-September 2020; GBV Sub Cluster Iraq Rapid Assessment: Impact of COVID-19 on GBV, May 2020.

⁵ Iraq is one of the most contaminated country with explosive ordnance. iMMAP, October 2020.

⁶ NPC Critical Protection Incidents notes since 2018.

all protection cluster activities are under strategic objectives 3).

Strategic Objective 3 - Vulnerable IDPs and returnees are supported to establish lives in safety and dignity

Specific Objective 3.2 - # IDPs and Returnees are supported to have access to legal assistance and documentation to enjoy their fundamental rights and to access services, remedies and entitlements and thus contribute to solving displacement and help re-establish lives (legal/documentation, can also include capacity building).

Specific Objective 3.3 - # IDPs and Returnees are supported in addressing risks to their physical safety, well-being and social integration through specialized protection services as well as community-based interventions to promote peaceful coexistence. -

Specific Objective 3.4 - # IDPs and Returnees are supported to manage stress, trauma and anxiety and to reduce the use of negative coping mechanisms to maintain their mental, psychosocial and physical well-being (MHPSS).

Specific Objective 3.5 - # IDPs and Returnees have access to critical information and awareness-raising about rights, risks, and services to enable them to make informed decisions, promote positive social change and raise concerns appropriate to their particular situation and characteristics (information needs: CCCM committees, community representation, complaint mechanisms, explosive ordnance risk education, awareness raising sessions, Iraq Information Center, AAP/CwC etc).

National Protection Cluster Objectives 2021 and Response Approach:

General Protection, Mine Action and Housing, Land and Property

OBJECTIVE	CLUSTER RESPONSE APPROACH	Activity	INDICATOR	IN NEED (ACUTE)	TARGETED
Strategic Objective 3: Vulnerable IDPs and returnees are supported to establish lives in safety and dignity					
Specific Objective 3.2: # IDPs and Returnees are supported to have access to legal assistance and documentation to enjoy their fundamental rights and to access services, remedies and entitlements and thus contribute to solving displacement and help re-establish lives					
Sub-cluster Objective: Vulnerable IDPs and Returnees have access to legal assistance and documentation to enjoy their fundamental rights and to access basic services.	Integrated	Legal assistance (Detention representation)	# of women and men who received legal assistance or counselling (Detention)	510,909	1,700
		Legal assistance - documentation and family law matters	# of women, men, girls and boys who received legal assistance or counselling (e.g. Documentation, family law matters)	824,046	120,000
			# of women, men, girls and boys who successfully secured civil documentation		60,000
			# of IDP/returnee households registered with authorities (e.g. MoDM)		20,000
Legal assistance on HLP (Property compensation, replacing/restoration/missing damaged ownership documentation, Replacing damaged ownership documentation, Property dispute resolution/Mediation, Heirs deed, Correction of heirs deed, Proof of cession of inheritance shares, Property Restitution (secondary/illegal occupation or unlawful sales), Eviction and draft rental agreements between owner and tenants)	# of women and men received legal assistance on HLP issues	824,046	7,825		
Specific Objective 3.3: # IDPs and Returnees are supported in addressing risks to their physical safety, well-being and social integration through specialized protection services as well as community-based interventions to promote peaceful coexistence					

<p>Cluster Objective: Vulnerable IDPs and Returnees have access to specialized protection services, basic services and community-based interventions to address risks to their physical safety, well-being and social integration</p>	Layered	Case management - GP	# of girls, boys, women and men who received case management services (not including specialized CP & GBV services)	824,046	5,000
		Referrals of cases	# of women, girls, boys and men with specific needs referred to specialized services and assistance	824,046	20,000
		Community-based protection activities	# of girls, boys, women and men who participated in community-based activities (including peaceful co-existence activities)	824,046	36,000
			# of women and men community members trained on protection approaches or issues (not including GBV or Child Protection)	824,046	4,000
		Community Centers	# of community centers established or maintained	824,046	50
		Emergency cash for protection	# of women and men with specific needs who received emergency cash assistance to prevent, mitigate or respond to protection needs	510,909	2,300
		Cash for protection	# of Female and Male Headed Household with protection concerns receiving cash for protection	510,909	10,500
		Training and capacity-building activities	# of women and men humanitarian staff trained on protection approaches or issues	824,046	1,200
			# of women and men government staff trained on protection approaches or issues	824,046	800
		Training on HLP	# of women and men trained on HLP	824,046	300
		Survey and clearance	# sqm where Technical Survey (TS) was conducted	824,046	12,000,000
			# sqm cleared of explosive ordnance	824,046	N/A
			# of explosive ordnance cleared	824,046	N/A
			# of Non-Technical surveys conducted	824,046	N/A
		Victim assistance	# of women, men, boys and girls reached with victim assistance programming (or referred to a VA service)	824,046	300
		Capacity building on Mine Action	# of service providers (male or female) trained on risk education (ToT)	824,046	9,900

			# of public service and NGOs trained on aspects related to mine action	824,046	100
Specific Objective 3.4: # IDPs and Returnees are supported to manage stress, trauma and anxiety and to reduce the use of negative coping mechanisms to maintain their mental, psychosocial and physical well-being					
Cluster Objectives: Vulnerable IDPs and Returnees are supported to manage stress, trauma and anxiety and reduce the use of negative coping mechanisms	Integrated	Psychosocial support	# of women and men who received individual or group-based psychosocial support	824,046	25,000
Specific Objective 3.5: # IDPs and Returnees have access to critical information and awareness-raising about rights, risks, and services to enable them to make informed decisions, promote positive social change and raise concerns appropriate to their particular situation and characteristics					
Cluster Objective: Vulnerable IDPs and Returnees have access to information about their rights and access to services and are supported in raising their priority protection needs and concerns	Integrated	Awareness raising - GP	# of girls, boys, women and men who participated in awareness raising activities	824,046	120,000
		Protection assessment	# protection assessments conducted at community level	824,046	50
		Protection monitoring at household level	# of girls, boys, women and men reached through protection monitoring	824,046	280,000
		Protection monitoring at community level	# of girls, boys, women and men key informants reached through community level protection monitoring	824,046	7,200
		Advocacy	# of advocacy interventions undertaken on protection issues	824,046	100
		Awareness raising on HLP	# of women and men who participated in awareness raising sessions on HLP	510,909	20,000
		HLP Assessment	# of HLP assessments conducted	824,046	5
		Advocacy on HLP	# of Advocacy Efforts/Activities conducted	824,046	50
		Explosive ordnance risk education	# of women, men, boys and girls who attended explosive ordnance risk education sessions	824,046	80,000

Child Protection

OBJECTIVE	CLUSTER RESPONSE APPROACH	Activity	INDICATOR	IN NEED	TARGETED
Strategic Objective 3: Vulnerable IDPs and returnees are supported to establish lives in safety and dignity					
Specific Objective 3.2: # IDPs and Returnees are supported to have access to legal assistance and documentation to enjoy their fundamental rights and to access services, remedies and entitlements and thus contribute to solving displacement and help re-establish lives					
Cluster Objective: Vulnerable IDPs and Returnees have access to legal assistance and documentation to enjoy their fundamental rights and to access basic services.	Integrated	Assistance to access civil documentation	# of girls and boys assisted to secure civil documentation	500,000	22,999
			# of girls and boys who successfully secured civil documentation		
		Legal Assistance	# of girls and boys at risk received Child Protection legal assistance	500,000	8,000
Specific Objective 3.3: # IDPs and Returnees are supported in addressing risks to their physical safety, well-being and social integration through specialized protection services as well as community-based interventions to promote peaceful coexistence					
Cluster Objective: Vulnerable IDPs and returnees have access		Alternative care for unaccompanied Children	# of girls and boys without appropriate parental care are reunified with primary caregiver/s	500,000	150

to specialised protection services and community-based interventions to address risks to their physical safety, well-being and social integration	Sequenced		# of girls and boys without appropriate parental care identified and placed in alternative care		
			# of girls and boys provided in institutions provided with support		
		Case management	# of girls and boys at risk received case management services	500,000	27,000
		Coaching child protection officials	# of women and men government and NGO staff Coaching on CP approaches	500,000	390
		Community-based child protection mechanisms	# of girls, boys, women and men of community based child protection structures trained on CP related trainings	500,000	10,000
			# of child / adolescent clubs / groups established or supported		
			# of community based child protection structures established or supported		
Referral of cases	# of girls and boys at risk identified and referred to specialized services	500,000	12,000		
Specific Objective 3.4 - # IDPs and Returnees are supported to manage stress, trauma and anxiety and to reduce the use of negative coping mechanisms to maintain their mental, psychosocial and physical well-being					
Cluster Objective: Vulnerable IDPs and returnees receive protection support to manage stress, stress and anxiety and reduce use of negative coping mechanisms	Layered	Structured Psychosocial Support	# of girls and boys participating in structured and sustained psychosocial support programmes	500,000	114,000
		Psychosocial family-based support kits (for remote implementation)	# of girls and boys who received individual psychosocial support	500,000	100,000
			# of PSS and Learning distributed at HH level		
		Parenting programs	# of women and men caregivers participating in parents programs	500,000	30,000
		Training and capacity-building activities	# of women and men teachers/ social workers in schools trained on CP approaches	500,000	11,000
			# of women and men child protection workers trained on CP approaches		
			# of women and men non child protection staff trained on CP approaches		
# of women and men government staff trained on CP approaches					
Specific Objective 3.5 - # IDPs and Returnees have access to critical information and awareness-raising about rights, risks, and services to enable them to make informed decisions, promote positive social change and raise concerns appropriate to their particular situation and characteristics					
Cluster Objective: Vulnerable IDPs and returnees have access to information about their rights and access to services and are supported in raising their priority protection needs and concerns.	Integrated	Awareness raising - CP	# of girls, boys, women and men participating in awareness raising activities on CP issues	500,000	200,000
		Awareness raising for CP and COVID-19 (remote)	# of girls and boys reached with awareness raising messages	500,000	350,000

Gender-based violence

OBJECTIVE	CLUSTER RESPONSE APPROACH	Activity	INDICATOR	IN NEED	TARGETED
Strategic Objective 3: Vulnerable IDPs and returnees are supported to establish lives in safety and dignity.					
Specific Objective 3.2: # IDPs and Returnees are supported to have access to legal assistance and documentation to enjoy their fundamental rights and to access services, remedies and entitlements and thus contribute to solving displacement and help re-establish lives					
Vulnerable IDPs and returnees have access to legal assistance and documentation to enable them to enjoy their fundamental rights and access basic services	Integrated	Legal information and counselling support	# of women/girls who received legal information and counseling support	457,919	2,356
Specific Objective 3.3: # IDPs and Returnees are supported in addressing risks to their physical safety, well-being and social integration through specialized protection services as well as community-based interventions to promote peaceful coexistence					
Cluster Objective: Vulnerable IDPs and returnees have access to specialised protection services and community-based interventions to address risks to their physical safety, well-being and social integration	Integrated	GBV Case Management	# of girls/boys/women/men who received GBV case management services.	457,919	26,178
		Provision of dignity kits	# of girls/women who received dignity kits	457,919	93,095
		Community-based group activities.	# of girls/boys/women/men who participated in life skills, recreational or vocational activities	457,919	61,113
		Cash (Support referrals and immediate survivors needs)	# of women/girls who received cash assistance	457,919	5,445
		Support for income generating opportunities	# of women/girls who received support for income generating opportunities	457,919	2,094
		Training and capacity-building activities	# of women and men specialized GBV service providers trained on GBV prevention and/or risk mitigation and/or response.	457,919	1,370
			# of women and men non-specialized GBV service providers trained on GBV prevention and/or risk mitigation and/or response.	457,919	350
			# of women and men community members trained on GBV prevention and/or risk mitigation and/or response.	457,919	3,078
		Mentoring and coaching	# of women and men specialized GBV service providers receiving mentoring sessions after training	457,919	304
			# of women and men non-specialized GBV service providers receiving mentoring sessions after training	457,919	504
GBV Assessments	# of GBV assessments conducted	457,919	20		
Specific Objective 3.4: # IDPs and Returnees are supported to manage stress, trauma and anxiety and to reduce the use of negative coping mechanisms to maintain their mental, psychosocial and physical well-being					

Cluster Objectives: Vulnerable IDPs and Returnees are supported to manage stress, trauma and anxiety and reduce the use of negative coping mechanisms	Integrated	Structured Psychosocial Support	# of girls/boys/women/men who received individual or group structured psychosocial support	457,919	82,775
Specific Objective 3.5: # IDPs and Returnees have access to critical information and awareness-raising about rights, risks, and services to enable them to make informed decisions, promote positive social change and raise concerns appropriate to their particular situation and characteristics					
Cluster Objective: Vulnerable IDPs and Returnees have access to information about their rights and access to services and are supported in raising their priority protection needs and concerns	Integrated	Awareness raising	# of girls/boys/women/men reached with awareness raising activities on GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response	457,919	459,884

4. People in Need and Targeted

The NPC will target people as follows:

GP, HLP and MA Sub-Cluster in Need and Targeted

	By categories				By sex and age					By Disability
	Total	# IDPs in camps,	# IDPs in out of camps	# Returnees	% Male	% Female	% Adults	% Children	% Elderly	%
People in need	2,170,045	129,920	474,269	1,565,857	52%	48%	58%	38%	4%	15%
People targeted	739,825	43,790	163,362	532,674	52%	48%	58%	38%	4%	15%

CP Sub-Cluster in Need and Targeted

	By categories				By sex and age					By Disability
	Total	# IDPs in camps	# IDPs in out of camps	# Returnees	% Male	% Female	% Adults	% Children	% Elderly	%
People in need	1,715,138	117,261	298,357	1,299,520	49%	51%	13%	84%	3%	15%
People targeted	500,000	32,553	82,830	384,617	49%	51%	13%	84%	3%	15%

GBV Sub-Cluster in Need and Targeted

	By categories				By sex and age					By Disability
	Total	# IDPs in camps	# IDPs in out of camps	# Returnees	% Male	% Female	% Adults	% Children	% Elderly	%
People in need	1,315,579	149,021	302,633	863,924	25%	75%	65%	30%	5%	15%
People targeted	459,883	43,079	108,170	308,635	25%	75%	66%	30%	4%	15%

5. NPC Response

In 2021, the NPC Iraq plans to reach **119,421 IDPs in camps, 354,361 IDPs out-of-camps and 1,225,926 returnees with protection services in 37 priority districts**. The cluster's objectives are to provide protection services to ensure vulnerable IDPs and returnees can enjoy their fundamental rights and access basic services; are able to address risks to their physical safety, well-being and social integration; can limit the use of negative coping mechanisms; and have access to critical information to make informed decisions and promote positive social change. The cluster has designed activities to support four specific objectives under the third strategic objective to support IDPs and returnees establish their lives in safety and dignity.

6. Cluster Response Strategy

To respond to identified protection needs and challenges as identified in the HNO, the cluster response strategy will include: (i) delivery of protection assistance to the most vulnerable IDPs in- and out-of-camp and returnees; (ii) scale-up of outreach and services in out-of-camp locations for IDPs and returnees; (iii) prioritization of community-based protection programming in out-of-camp and returnee areas; (iv) addressing barriers to durable solutions for IDPs in- and out-of-camps and returnees, e.g. with provision of legal assistance; and (v) strengthening the capacity of authorities, communities and existing protection systems. Linkages with stabilization and development actors, particularly those responsible for social cohesion programmes, will be promoted. Direct and remote implementation of services and monitoring will be implemented based on need and context for a flexible response.

7. Response Plans for Protection Areas of Responsibility**General Protection**

General Protection (GP) partners will assist 37,900 IDPs in camps, 139,000 IDPs out-of-camps and 455,000 returnees in 36 districts in 11 governorates. Partners will prioritize the provision of legal assistance and counselling on civil documentation, detention and family law, for all three population groups to ensure proof of legal identity, promote freedom of movement and facilitate access to basic services, including government social protection schemes. Mobile missions for issuance of civil documentation to IDPs in- and out-of-camps and targeted returns areas will be strongly encouraged. Where possible, support to establish online proceedings in Civil Affairs Directorates (CADs) and Courts will be explored. Partners will undertake community-based protection interventions in in- and out-of-camp locations, and returnee areas, to minimize protection risks for affected people and to enhance peaceful coexistence and foster durable solutions in communities, with a focus on persons with perceived affiliation to extremist groups. GP partners will continue providing psychosocial support services to IDPs in- and out-of-camps, and returnees, to assist in overcoming pre-existing conflict-related trauma,

the psychosocial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and additional stress and anxiety due to coerced and premature departures from camps and informal sites. To this end, partners will further strengthen inter-sectoral interventions with the Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support Task Force. Vulnerable IDPs and returnees will receive specialized protection services, including case management, to mitigate and respond to protection needs. Due to coerced and premature returns, often leading to secondary displacement, and the socioeconomic impact of the pandemic, partners will deliver cash for protection to vulnerable IDPs and returnees to address protection risks and respond to immediate needs. Protection monitoring at household and community level will be implemented in in- and out-of-camp locations to inform the response and support evidence-based advocacy on respect for protection principles and needs-based provision of assistance.

Housing, Land and Property

Housing, Land and Property (HLP) partners will target 1,000 IDPs in camps, 6,700 out-of-camp IDPs and 20,000 returnees in 2021. Partner interventions will prioritize the provision of legal assistance for HLP documentation for returnees and out-of-camp IDPs. Specialized HLP services for property owners and secondary occupants will include mediation to resolve their cases and disputes, including community-based dispute resolution and ownership verification mechanisms. Legal assistance will be provided to (i) owners who are victims of fraud to restore their HLP rights in cases where illegal sales have occurred without their endorsement or knowledge, and (ii) persons living in informal settlements to formalize their rental agreements to secure tenure rights as protection against forced eviction. Partners will also provide free legal assistance for compensation claims submitted by owners whose properties were destroyed or damaged during the recent conflict; partners will facilitate representation of the cases before compensation sub-committees and following their case until is successfully submitted, which will contribute to dignified and sustainable return. Additionally, HLP legal assistance and counselling will be provided to IDPs in- and out-of-camp and returnees to work toward restitution of their HLP rights, by representing cases in courts, with a prioritization of security of tenure and compensation claims for women, minorities and persons with perceived affiliation with extremist groups. This is due to the barriers these persons face to access their HLP rights, including challenges for women who often do not have equal access to compensation, are victim to land-grabbing in families and who may be forced to give up their HLP rights if their husbands are deceased. Capacity building, training, awareness raising on HLP rights, as well as high-level advocacy will be conducted throughout 2021 to prioritize the financial disbursement for successful compensation claims of damaged/destroyed properties.

Mine Action

Mine Action Sub-Cluster (MASC) members will strive to reduce the risk of Explosive Ordnance (EO) on affected communities through conducting surveys and clearance of land of 12 million squares meter of land, including residential areas to support safe return and access to agricultural land, roads and critical infrastructure. MASC will provide Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) to raise awareness and promote safety among affected community members. Awareness messages will be delivered to IDPs in camps that expected to close in 2021, IDP out of camps and returnees in coordination with other humanitarian partners. EORE activities help populations recognize, avoid and report hazards to reduce the risk to the level where people can live safely allowing for economic and social development work to be implemented. MASC partners will train male and female community focal points as educators in their communities. The sub-sluster will also support victim reporting and data collection system that is both age and gender disaggregated to assess the needs of the victims and plan response. Sub-Cluster partners will assist victims through referral pathways to access health care, protection, rehabilitation and psychosocial support services and promoting their participation and empowerment in social and economic life. To this end, MASC will work in collaboration with other sectors such as Health, Child Protection and Education Clusters to address the needs of the victims. To ensure effective implementation of mine action activities in line with humanitarian guidance and principles, mine action partners will continue building the capacity of national mine action authorities and partners to coordinate and manage mine action activities.

Child Protection

More than 400,000 children in need of care and protection from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect will be targeted for child protection interventions. In line with the NPC response strategy, child protection actors will join efforts with partners from other sectors to achieve three main objectives: (i) ensuring that the most vulnerable children access the care and assistance they need through appropriate referrals, case management and other specialized services; (ii) providing legal assistance for boys and girls at risk and civil documentation support for children missing key documents; and (iii) reinforcing safe environments for vulnerable children through quality psychosocial interventions, awareness raising programs and by strengthening the capacities of the child protection system. Partners will step-up efforts to better prevent and respond to violence against children, child labour, early marriages and other forms of GBV in areas of returns and among displaced populations. The implementation of new guidance and tools developed since the outbreak of the pandemic will continue to improve the effectiveness of adapted activities. In addition, collaboration with other sectors will remain key and will focus on training teachers and supporting schools on psychosocial approaches and on reducing school drop out of children with protection concerns (with education and livelihood partners); on improving management and referrals of exploited and maltreated children (with GBV and health partners); on informing and sensitizing families and communities of specific child protection risks, on ways of reducing them and on available support. Priority will also be given to protecting girls and boys living in high risk locations, such as those contaminated by explosive ordnance, with presence of armed groups, with children detained or released from security detention, and in the prioritized areas most affected by COVID-19. Awareness raising and community-based efforts will reduce tensions, exclusion and barriers affecting children with a perceived affiliation with extremist groups and children with disabilities. In addition, close to 100,000 adults (e.g. parents and caregivers, community members, and government staff including teachers) will also be supported to improve the care given to children, raise awareness on the risks affecting them, reinforce their protective environments and improve their access to key services.

Gender-Based Violence

In 2021, the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) sub-cluster response will target 459,900 individuals in need⁷ (mainly women and girls) at risk of GBV with GBV services in 62 districts in 16 governorates. Special attention and focus will be given to persons with disabilities, persons with perceived affiliation to extremist groups, female-headed households and child survivors. The GBV SC in coordination with other sectors will aim to: (i) strengthen existing service delivery in the underserved locations and improve survivor access to dignified and safe specialized GBV and multi-sector services⁸ in line with GBV Guiding Principles and Survivor-Centred Approaches;⁹ (ii) enhance the capacities of GBV partners, key clusters and local authorities¹⁰ on core interventions for GBV prevention and response; (iii) reinforce GBV prevention and risk mitigation measures¹¹ as well as the provision of dignity kits, cash for protection, skills-based vocational activities to support decrease in survivors' reliance on negative coping mechanisms and socio-economic dependence upon perpetrators of violence. The Sub-Cluster will ensure that services are adapted to meet special needs of these groups through provision of capacity-building

⁷ This target includes 43,079 IDPs in camp, 108,170 IDPs out of camp and 308,635 returnees (75 per cent female, 30 per cent children, 15 per cent people with disabilities).

⁸ This includes: GBV Case management, MHPSS, access to livelihood, cash assistance and access to legal services and safe shelters. In areas where integration of livelihood components is not implemented, inter agency referral mechanism will be used to refer survivors to Livelihood actors. This is also similar for Safe shelter, where GBV actors will ensure that GBV programming takes into consideration the physical safety needs of GBV survivors at imminent safety risks of further violence in their families or community. Community based safe shelter approach and government services will be explored and strengthened to address emerging needs.

⁹ The GBV Guiding principles underpin the GBV response to ensure the rights of GBV survivors are central. This includes the right to Confidentiality, Safety, Non-Discrimination, Respect for survivors' Dignity and Self-determination, and the principle of the Best Interest of the Child.

¹⁰ Local health departments, legal actors and MoDM will be targeted as key authorities in collaboration with the Health and Protection Clusters, as well as the SRH WG.

¹¹ GBV SC will mainstream and integrate GBV intervention as per IASC Guidelines in the Cash WG, Emergency Livelihoods and Food Security Cluster.

of partners and reinforcement of interagency referral mechanisms to ensure access to multi-sectoral interventions. In addition, the response will increase capacities of frontline service providers on GBV case management, including remote approaches for psychosocial support, GBV data collection through the Gender Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) and community mobilization, including a focus on engaging men and boys and relevant provision of support for them as potential survivors facing stigma in accessing care. Care and case management for child survivors, Intimate Partner Violence, persons with disabilities and adolescent girls will also be strengthened. Increased collaboration with the Health Cluster and the Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Working Group and lead UN agencies will be reinforced in order to measure and strengthen the existing capacities of health responders and systems for clinical management of rape cases and improve survivors' access to health care services at the district level.

8. Capacity to Respond

Some 43 protection actors focused on general protection, HLP and demining services, have been operating in the majority of the HRP priority districts and they will continue to provide protection services through a combination of in-person and remote modalities due to the risk of COVID-19 and access restrictions in out-of-camp locations. Partners will prioritize in-person implementation of activities where COVID-19 prevention measures are in place. When in-person implementation is not possible, remote modalities utilizing mixed approaches, including remote case management and referrals, will be explored with emphasis on the do-no-harm principle. Existing community centres in out-of-camp locations will remain a key entry point for service provision and outreach activities will be expanded. Mobile services will be deployed targeting vulnerable out-of-camp IDPs and returnees. Focus on supporting national partners to identify and manage complex protection cases will also be strengthened to overcome access constraints and promote service delivery and allow for gradual handover of activities. Cash for protection will be implemented to cover immediate protection needs of vulnerable individuals. Fifty-eight Child Protection partners will increase the delivery of family-based psychosocial kits while COVID-19 related restrictions are in place and will also adapt the provision of structured programmes, when these are eased, especially for families with no connectivity to internet. Given the limited number of specialized HLP partners and limited funding for HLP programmes, further geographical prioritization of the response will need to be undertaken by the Sub-Cluster to ensure adequate support to vulnerable IDPs out of camps and returnees.

9. Cost of the NPC Response

The cost of General Protection, HLP and Mine Action Sub-Clusters activities is estimated at \$81.9 million to meet the protection needs of 739,000 individuals. **General Protection** requires **\$57.8 million** to meet protection needs of **631,700 individuals**; **Mine Action** needs **\$22.1 million** to meet the needs of **80,300 individuals** and **HLP partners** need an estimated **\$2.3 million** to support **27,800 individuals**. The **GBV Sub-Cluster's** costs are estimated at **\$38.3 million** to respond to the needs of **738,490 targeted beneficiaries**. The **CP Sub-Cluster** requires **\$40.3 million** to target **500,000 people** in acute need. Common activities among all areas of responsibility are costed with agreed average costs taking into consideration indirect costs, including transportation, implementation in hard to reach areas and out-of-camp locations, procurement of security equipment, human resource-related costs and monitoring. All costs include 30 per cent support costs (both direct and indirect support costs). Considering access restrictions and COVID-19 preventative measures, variations in unit costs have also been considered in the final estimation of the average unit cost per activity. The cost per activity was validated in consultations with partners (local NGOs, international NGOs and UN agencies); some people are targeted with multiple activities and are costed and monitored accordingly. **For further information on the cost, please consult Annex II.**

10. Criteria to Prioritize Partners and their Programmes

a) NPC Partners profile:

- Partner should be an active participant of the NPC – and Sub-Clusters when applicable - at the national, or governorate level.
 - Partners should have proven record of consistent reporting in the dedicated platforms (ActivityInfo, Financial Tracking System and Service Advisor).
 - Access to the proposed prioritized geographical districts/locations, and enough capacity (technical ability) to expand presence with reasonable time and investment.
 - Partners should have a mandate focused on, or at least inclusive of, protection and should be institutionally committed to following a rights-based approach.
 - Partners should have the necessary technical expertise and experience (staffing, programme resources etc.) to ensure high programme quality in accordance with the standards set by the Protection Cluster.
- b) Synergy with other sectors and actors: Partners shall consider structuring their programmes in a way that considers creation of linkage with other Clusters to provide a comprehensive response (e.g. Livelihood, Cash WG, Health, etc.). Partners with diverse technical in-house expertise shall consider multi-layered programmes, whereby protection, HLP, CP and GBV are considered.
- c) Localization efforts: Partnerships with local actors (NGOs, CSOs, etc.) and authorities should be encouraged, including modalities of collaboration and capacity building as required.

11. Geographic Response

The NPC has analysed different data sources¹² and prioritized the geographical areas with highest needs as well as taken into consideration population movements due to late 2020 camp closure. Indicators used in the NPC population in need (PIN) calculation and severity estimation were:

- **GP** = % HH missing at least one key household or individual document
- **HLP** = % HH lacking secure tenure
- **HLP** = % of HHs lacking valid HLP documentation
- **MA** = % of EO contamination area size
- **MA** = % of Explosive hazards incidents recorded
- **GBV** = % of HH reported women and girls of reproductive age (12-49) with no access to specialized reproductive health services
- **GBV** = % of HHs engaging in negative coping mechanisms.
- **GBV** = % of HHs living under critical shelter conditions
- **GBV** = % of HHs reported the presence of one member is reporting signs of distress (self-diagnosed)
- **GBV** = % of locations reporting [(a) Lack of safety in public/communal spaces for women and girls; (b) Restricted access to public services (e.g., Education or healthcare); (c) Violence, harassment, or abuse; or (d) Lack of livelihood opportunities] as an issue/problem/threat affecting female IDPs/returnees
- **CP** = % of HH with at least one child not attending formal or informal education regularly (at least 4 days a week) prior to COVID 19 outbreak
- **CP** = % of HH with children with psychosocial distress (proxy data with behaviour change)
- **CP** = % HH with at least one person under (<18) working

¹² Primary data sources: MCNA VIII, IOM Integrated Locations Assessment (ILA) V, IMSMA, IMMMap Explosive Hazard Incident database, National Protection Cluster (NPC) Protection Monitoring at Community Level in Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak in Iraq;¹² Displacement Tracking Matrix; Sitrep Camp Closures (CCCM and NPC);¹² GBV Sub Cluster Iraq Rapid Assessment (2020), GBVIMS Q2 2020 report, Care Rapid Gender Analysis - COVID-19, Oxfam Gender analysis of the COVID-19 pandemic in Iraq, <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/iraq/gender-based-violence>; Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (2019), Child Protection Sub-cluster Case Management Working Group reports (2020). Secondary data sources: Partners assessments, MCNA VIII, Civil Documentation and Housing, Land and Property Needs in Iraq (REACH); NPC Critical Protection Incidents notes 2020; UNICEF and World Bank Assessment of COVID-19 Impact on Poverty and Vulnerability in Iraq (July 2020), Reports of the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict (2019 and 2020), Protection Monitoring System in Iraq.

- **CP** = % of HH with presence of child marriage
- **CP** = % of HH with at least one child missing a key individual document

The NPC humanitarian response will be highly prioritised and **protection partners are encouraged to focus their interventions on the prioritized geographical districts/areas that each Sub-Cluster included in this document.** For further information on prioritized areas, activities and targets [please see Annex I.](#)

12. Cluster Transition Plan

The NPC will (1) look at relevant legal frameworks existing in Iraq to identify what policies/strategies exist that could support the ‘transition’; (2) continue to map stabilization / developmental initiatives trying to identify spaces for collaboration on the basis of common protection issues and strengthen linkages (e.g. durable solutions strategy and key stakeholders; Priority Working Groups under the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)); (3) promote linkages with government assistance frameworks; (4) expand solution oriented programmes; (5) map out and approach donors able and willing to support transition and fund transition activities at a later stage.

ANNEX I - PRIORITY DISTRICTS OF HRP INTERVENTIONS

GP, HLP, MA Sub-Clusters – 36 PRIORITIZED DISTRICTS

Governorate	District		Governorate	District
Al-Anbar	Al-Falluja		Kirkuk	Al-Hawiga
Al-Anbar	Al-Kaim		Kirkuk	Kirkuk
Al-Anbar	Al-Ramadi		Ninewa	Al-Baaj
Al-Anbar	Al-Rutba		Ninewa	Al-Hamdaniya
Al-Anbar	Heet		Ninewa	Al-Hatra
Al-Sulaymaniyah	Al-Sulaymaniyah		Ninewa	Al-Mosul
Baghdad	Al-Kadhmiyah		Ninewa	Al-Shikhan
Baghdad	Al-Mahmoudiya		Ninewa	Aqra
Diyala	Al-Khalis		Ninewa	Sinjar
Diyala	Al-Muqdadiya		Ninewa	Telafar
Diyala	Baquba		Ninewa	Tilkaef
Diyala	Khanaqin		Salah Al-Din	Al-Daur
Duhok	Duhok		Salah Al-Din	Al-Shirqat
Duhok	Sumail		Salah Al-Din	Balad
Duhok	Zakho		Salah Al-Din	Beygee
Erbil	Erbil		Salah Al-Din	Samarra
Erbil	Makhmour		Salah Al-Din	Tikrit
Kerbala	Kerbala		Salah Al-Din	Tooz Khurmato

CP Sub-Cluster - 32 PRIORITIZED DISTRICTS

Governorate	District		Governorate	District
Ninewa	Al-Mosul		Al-Anbar	Heet
Ninewa	Telafar		Salah Al-Din	Tikrit
Ninewa	Al-Hamdaniya		Baghdad	Al-Mahmoudiya
Al-Anbar	Al-Falluja		Ninewa	Al-Shikhan
Ninewa	Tilkaef		Al-Sulaymaniyah	Al-Sulaymaniyah
Ninewa	Sinjar		Al-Anbar	Al-Kaim

Duhok	Sumail		Salah Al-Din	Tooz Khurmato
Al-Anbar	Al-Ramadi		Baghdad	Al-Kadhmiyah
Erbil	Erbil		Salah Al-Din	Samarra
Salah Al-Din	Al-Shirqat		Salah Al-Din	Balad
Kirkuk	Al-Hawiga		Ninewa	Aqra
Salah Al-Din	Beygee		Al-Anbar	Ana
Duhok	Zakho		Duhok	Duhok
Ninewa	Al-Baaj		Diyala	Khanaqin
Kirkuk	Kirkuk		Kirkuk	Dibis
Ninewa	Al-Hatra		Kirkuk	Daquq

GBV Sub-Cluster – 62 PRIORITIZED DISTRICTS

Governorate	District		Governorate	District
Baghdad	Al-Adhamiya		Kirkuk	Dibis
Duhok	Al-Amadiya		Al-Sulaymaniyah	Dokan
Ninewa	Al-Baaj		Duhok	Duhok
Al-Basrah	Al-Basrah		Erbil	Erbil
Salah Al-Din	Al-Daur		Al-Anbar	Haditha
Al-Qadissiya	Al-Diwaniya		Al-Sulaymaniyah	Halabcha
Al-Anbar	Al-Falluja		Al-Anbar	Heet
Ninewa	Al-Hamdaniya		Al-Sulaymaniyah	Kalar
Ninewa	Al-Hatra		Kerbala	Kerbela
Kirkuk	Al-Hawiga		Diyala	Khanaqin
Kerbala	Al-Hindiya		Diyala	Kifri
Baghdad	Al-Kadhmiyah		Kirkuk	Kirkuk
Al-Anbar	Al-Kaim		Erbil	Koysinjaq
Baghdad	Al-Karkh		Erbil	Makhmour
Diyala	Al-Khalis		Al-Sulaymaniyah	Rania
Al-Najaf	Al-Kufa		Erbil	Rawanduz
Wassit	Al-Kut		Salah Al-Din	Samarra
Baghdad	Al-Mahmoudiya		Erbil	Shaqlawwa
Ninewa	Al-Mosul		Ninewa	Sinjar

Diyala	Al-Muqdadiya		Duhok	Sumail
Babil	Al-Mussyab		Ninewa	Telafar
Al-Najaf	Al-Najaf		Salah Al-Din	Tikrit
Thi Qar	Al-Nasiriya		Ninewa	Tilkaef
Al-Anbar	Al-Ramadi		Salah Al-Din	Tooz Khurmato
Baghdad	Al-Risafa		Duhok	Zakho
Al-Anbar	Al-Rutba			
Ninewa	Al-Shikhan			
Salah Al-Din	Al-Shirqat			
Al-Sulaymaniyah	Al-Sulaymaniyah			
Al-Anbar	Ana			
Ninewa	Aqra			
Salah Al-Din	Balad			
Diyala	Baquba			
Salah Al-Din	Beygee			
Al-Sulaymaniyah	Chamchamal			
Kirkuk	Daquq			
Al-Sulaymaniyah	Derbendikhan			

ANNEX II – NPC KEY ACTIVITY AND COSTS

1. Process

Since the adoption of the Activity Based Costing (ABC) methodology at the end of 2019, Clusters have been developing clear unit costs per each activity. The Protection Cluster has identified common activities among all areas of responsibility (Sub-Clusters) with agreed average. Considering access restrictions and COVID-19 preventative measures, variations in unit costs have also been considered in the final estimation of the average unit cost per activity. The cost per activity was validated in consultations with partners (local NGOs, international NGOs and UN agencies); to note that some people are targeted with multiple activities and are costed and monitored accordingly.

2. Description of cost drivers

Compared to 2019, the unit cost of protection activities has not significantly changed. However, the 2021 drivers for some cost variations are linked to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and implementation of protection activities that must consider safety measures (PPE, respect of physical distancing, hand and respiratory hygiene). COVID-19 related movement restrictions, as well as ongoing access limitations in country, have been impacting on the ability of partners to regularly access priority areas and beneficiaries, de facto often limiting the time and frequency of direct implementation. Furthermore, sudden uncoordinated camp closures have often resulted in beneficiaries settling in hard to reach areas or out of camp locations where the presence of protection partners has not been systematic. The Protection Cluster costs takes into consideration indirect costs, including transportation, implementation in hard to reach areas and out of camp locations, procurement of security equipment, human resource-related costs, monitoring. All costs include 30 per cent support costs (both direct and indirect support costs).

3. Establishment of cost ranges and average unit cost

#	Activity	Unit	Min Unit Cost (\$)	Max Unit Cost (\$)	Average Unit Cost (\$)*	Target	Total Cost USD
GENERAL PROTECTION, HOUSING LAND AND PROPERTY AND MINE ACTION							
1	Case management - GP	Person	440	600	520	5,000	2.600.000
2	Mine Action Victim Assistant	Person	249	300	275	300	82.500
3	Referrals of cases	Person	50	150	100	20,000	2.000.000
4	Emergency Cash for Protection	Person	100	300	200	2,300	460.000
5	Cash for protection (UNHCR MPCA)	Household	/	/	846	10,500	8.883.000
6	Legal assistance – Detention representation	Person	500	600	550	1,700	935.000

7	Legal assistance - documentation	Person	160	240	200	120,000	24.000.000
8	Legal assistance – HLP	Person	170	220	200	7,825	1.565.000
9	Psychosocial support	Person	100	220	160	25,000	4.000.000
10	Awareness raising – GP	Person	5	13	9	120,000	1.080.000
11	Awareness raising - HLP	Person	8	12	10	20,000	200.000
12	Explosive ordnance risk education	Person	4.5	10	7.25	80,000	580.000
13	Community-based protection activities	Person	60	250	155	40,000	6.200.000
14	Community Centre	Centre	2.000	4.800	3.400	50	170.000
15	Training and capacity-building activities - GP	Person	50	450	250	2,000	500.000
16	Training and capacity-building activities – HLP	Person	180	220	200	300	60.000
17	Training and capacity-building activities – MA	Person	40	48	44	10,0000	440.000
18	Protection monitoring at HH	Household	6	40	23	280,000	6.440.000
19	Protection monitoring at community level	Community	5	34	20	7,200	140.400
20	Protection assessments - GP	Assessment	1.000	3.000	2.000	50	100.000
21	Community level assessments - HLP	Assessment	12.500	15.000	10.000	5	50.000
22	Advocacy – GP	Intervention	Lump sum	Lump sum	N.A	100	300.000

23	Advocacy – HLP	Intervention	Lump sum	Lump sum	N.A	50	125.000
24	Clearance and survey	Sqm	1.5	2	1.75	12,000,000	21,000,000
CHILD- PROTECTION							
#	Activity	Unit	Min Unit Cost (\$)	Max Unit Cost (\$)	Average Unit Cost (\$)	Target	Total Cost USD
1	Awareness Raising	Individual	7	9	7.91	200,000	1.582.000
2	Structured Psychosocial Support	Individual	45	56	50.85	114,000	5.796.900
3	Parenting Program	Individual	45	56	50.85	30,000	1.525.500
4	Case Management	Individual	500	625	565	27,000	15.255.000
5	Community Based Child Protection Mechanism	Individual	125	156	141.25	10,000	1.412.500
6	Assistance to Access Civil Documentation	Individual	125	156	141.25	22,999	3.248.609
7	Referral	Individual	50	63	56.50	12,000	678.000
8	Training	Individual	250	313	282.50	11,000	3.107.500
9	Legal Assistance	Individual	500	625	565	8,000	4.520.000
10	Coaching Child Protection Government Staff	Individual	5,000	6,250	5,650	390	2.203.500
11	Alternative Care for Unaccompanied Children	Individual	533	666	602.29	150	90.344
12	Psychosocial family-based support kits (for remote implementation)	Individual	5	6	5.65	100,000	565.000

13	Awareness raising for Covid-19 (remote)	Individual	1	2	1.13	350,000	395.500
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE							
#	Activity	Unit	Min Unit Cost (\$)	Max Unit Cost (\$)	Average Unit Cost (\$)	Target	Total Cost USD
1	GBV Case Management	Individual	500	600	550	26,178	14.397.900
2	Structured Psychosocial Support	Individual	40	50	45	82,775	3.724.875
3	Awareness raising	Individual	5	9	7	459,884	3.219.188
4	Provision of dignity kits	Individual	20	30	25	93095	2.327.375
5	Community-based protection group activities	Individual	75	175	125	61,113	7.639.125
6	Cash (Support referrals and immediate survivors needs)	Individual	50	600	325	5,445	1.769.625
7	Support for income generating opportunities (job placement)	Individual	1.000	2.000	1.500	2,094	3.141.000
8	Legal information and counseling support	Individual	100	150	125	2,356	294.500
9	Training and capacity-building activities	Individual	100	400	250	4,728	1.182.000
10	Mentoring and coaching	Individual			714	804	574.056
11	GBV Assessments	Assessment	3.000	5.500	4.250	20	85.000

* please note that some of the average unit cost have been rounded.

4. Monitoring and adaptation

During the mid-year periodic review in 2021, the protection cluster will also assess the unit costs for 2021 with partners – based on 6 months implementation.

ANNEX III – CLUSTER GUIDANCE NOTES

- [NPC Standardized Protection Monitoring tool at Community-Level](#)
- [protection response to camp closures,](#)
- [Do No Harm,](#)
- [If-asked document on requests for beneficiary data by public authorities, and to interferences in humanitarian programmes,](#)
- [guidelines on cash for protection](#)
- HLP note for CCCM actors on the IDPs living [in informal sites](#)
- [Case Management Guidance - Disease Outbreak](#) and a [Technical Guidance on Alternative Care During COVID-19](#)
- [Case Management Remote Phone Follow-Up](#) and [annex](#)
- [Family Based-PSS Kits](#) for different age groups & [Modality of Delivering](#) for awareness raising messages (CP)

ANNEX IV – TARGETING PER POPULATION GROUP

For more information on the targeted caseload per population group for Gp, MA, HLP, CP and GBV, please click on the link below.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Vgb3o4U4ZXRk_nA1Fp_HXdKpcBuguW0?usp=sharing

ANNEX V - CONTACT DETAILS

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