

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN IRAQ - 2018-2019

In 2018, UNFPA rationalised its operations because of the reduction of humanitarian funding and gradual transition to resilience and recovery in Iraq, leading to the humanitarian-development nexus: UNFPA phased out from around 30 women centres.

UNFPA GBV SERVICES IN IRAQ

Supporting women centres to provide holistic GBV services, including life-skills courses and PSS services

Co-leading the Rapid Response Mechanism, with WFP and UNICEF, through the distribution of dignity kits within 72 hours of an emergency

Providing awareness sessions on Child Marriage, harmful practices, different types of harassment and violence against women

Capacity building of different GBV actors, including government entities and local partners

Conducting advocacy campaigns on GBV-related issues



2019 HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Funding Required & Target

Challenges



400,000 individuals, including **215,000** women and **150,000** adolescents

Shortage of funding for humanitarian activities

Preparing implementing partners for the humanitarian-development transition

Phasing out from several women centres over a short time span

Limited access to some areas for security reasons despite population being in need of GBV services

STORY FROM THE FIELD



"It is not about sewing, to be honest; these women attend the sessions I give looking for a friend, for an escape, for a place where they can forget their miseries and feel useful."

These women gather as friends do in a neighbourhood, a casual ladies' get-together over sewing pieces of clothing. Some, however, come with deeper pains so, for them sewing this piece of cloth feels like knitting their own lives together and helps heal their wounds."

Haneen Ali from Mosul was 19 years old when the conflict forced her and her family to flee their home. Alongside her parents, she walked through mine-planted fields to find safety in the Debaga camp for internally displaced people.

Haneen continued her studies from a tent, reading books and educating herself. Her determination guided her to one the UNFPA-supported Women Centres in the camp, where she volunteered to be a sewing trainer. Thanks to her talent and drive, she was immediately accepted.

SUCCESS INDICATORS

3,022 girls subjected to violence accessed the essential services package

140,293 women subjected to violence accessed the essential services package

1,337 women and girls received prevention and/or protection services and care related to female genital mutilation

76,585 girls at risk of or affected by child marriage received prevention and/or protection services and care related to child, early and forced marriage

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, in Iraq works across the country to contribute to improving reproductive health service capacity, promoting gender equality and women empowerment, enhancing programmes for young people, and availing population data for development planning.

In 2018, UNFPA launched its strategic plan 2018-2021 with the aim of achieving three transformative goals:

- ➔ End Preventable Maternal Death
- ➔ End Unmet Needs for Family Planning
- ➔ End Gender-Based Violence and All Harmful Practices