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Resilient nations.*

## **2020 (tenth) Annual consolidated report on activities implemented under the Iraq UNDAF Fund**

Report of the Administrative Agent of the Iraq UNDAF Fund for the period  
1st of January – 31st of December 2020

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## Abbreviations and acronyms

AA	Administrative Agent	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
AWP	Annual Work Plan	MoWA	Ministry of Women’s Affairs
COR	Council of Representatives of Iraq	MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
CSO	Civil Society Organization	MPTF Office	Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
DGBV	Domestic and Gender-based Violence	NDP	National Development Plan
DSRSG	Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General	NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
FPU	Family Protection Unit	PAR	Public Administration Reform
Gol	Government of Iraq	PCN	Programme/Project Concept Note
GRB	Gender Responsive Budgeting	PMAC	Prime Minister’s Advisory Commission
IHCHR	Independent High Commission for Human Rights	PSM	Public Sector Modernization
IHEC	Independent High Electoral Commission	PWG	Priority Working Group
I-PSM	Iraq Public Sector Modernization Programme	RC	Resident Coordinator
IRFFI	International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq	SAA	Standard Administrative Arrangement
ITF	Iraq Trust Fund	SCSO	Steering Committee Support Office
JP	Joint Programme	SDS	Sand and Dust Storms
KBA	Kurdistan Bar Association	SES	Senior Executive Service
KPSM	Kurdistan Public Sector Modernization Project	SGP	Strategic Government Plan
KRBSA	Kurdistan Region Supreme Board of Audit	TOR	Terms of Reference
KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government	TOT	Training of Trainers
MoEn	Ministry of Environment	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
MoF	Ministry of Finance	UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
MoH	Ministry of Health	UNDG	United Nations Development Group
Mol	Ministry of Interior	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
MoLSA	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
MoP	Ministry of Planning	UPR	Universal Periodic Review

## Participating Organizations & Contributors



United Nations Economic and Social  
 Commission for West Asia



AUSTRALIA



Food and Agriculture Organization



BELGIUM



United Nations Development  
 Programme



CANADA



United Nations Environment  
 Programme



DENMARK



United Nations Educational,  
 Scientific and Cultural Organization



FINLAND



United Nations Population Fund



GREECE



UN Centre for Human Settlement



ICELAND



United Nations Children's Fund



INDIA



UN Office for Project Services



IRELAND



UNWOMEN



ITALY



World Health Organization



JAPAN



KUWAIT



LUXEMBOURG



NETHERLANDS



NEW ZEALAND



NORWAY



QATAR



REPUBLIC of KOREA



SPAIN



SWEDEN



SCOTLAND



TURKEY



UNITED STATES AMERICA

## DEFINITIONS

### **Allocation**

Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme.

### **Approved Project/Programme**

A project/programme including budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

### **Contributor Commitment**

Amount(s) committed by a donor to a Fund in a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement with the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent. A commitment may be paid or pending payment.

### **Contributor Deposit**

Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement.

### **Delivery Rate**

The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization against the 'net funded amount'.

### **Indirect Support Costs**

A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. UNDG policy establishes a fixed indirect cost rate of 7% of programmable costs.

### **Net Funded Amount**

Amount transferred to a Participating Organization less any refunds transferred back to the MPTF Office by a Participating Organization.

### **Participating Organization**

A UN Organization or other inter-governmental Organization that is an implementing partner in a Fund, as represented by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MPTF Office for a particular Fund.

### **Project Expenditure**

The sum of expenses and/or expenditure reported by all Participating Organizations for a Fund irrespective of which basis of accounting each Participating Organization follows for donor reporting.

### **Project Financial Closure**

A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

### **Project Operational Closure**

A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all programmatic activities for which Participating Organization(s) received funding have been completed.

### **Project Start Date**

Date of transfer of first instalment from the MPTF Office to the Participating Organization.

### **Total Approved Budget**

This represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

### **US Dollar Amount**

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

# I. CONSOLIDATED NARRATIVE REPORT

## Introduction

The 2020 Annual Progress Report on activities implemented under the Iraq United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Fund is submitted to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and the Ministry of Planning (MoP) of the Government of Iraq (GoI) in addition to the donors of the Iraq UNDAF Fund by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi- Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent (AA) of the Iraq UNDAF Fund in fulfillment of the reporting provisions of the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA). The information presented in this Progress Report covers the period of 1 January to 31 December 2020.

Iraq has once again faced security, economic and political challenges during 2020. In May 2020 Iraq's parliament approved a *new government*, after six months of political paralysis under the interim government. However, soon after the new government was formed the COVID-19 pandemic was impacting Iraq's in every possible way. The Government and the UN Country Team concentrated their efforts in the COVID-19 crisis response. Therefore, no new programme under UNDAF framework was initiated in 2020, though two new projects were designed and put in the pipeline.

2020 was the last year of implementation of the Invigorating Women's Political Participation in Iraq project which provided assistance to the government and civil society organizations (CSOs) to address the acute vulnerability and participation gap of women and minority groups in decision making processes on development issues at the national and subnational levels. During the project life cycle, UN Women organized around thirty meetings and workshops with women leaders in Iraq. UN Women

managed to support and coordinate the formation of a core group of women parliamentarians, which served as bases for the formation of the women parliamentarians caucus. UN Women has provided strategic needs-based advice and technical expertise to women leaders which led to the creation of a coalition that goes beyond political parties, and built an alliance between parliamentarians, activists and representatives working for women's rights and gender equality. In 2020, sixty women leaders were involved in national and subnational peace and political processes and trained in gender mainstreaming/leadership and negotiations. As a result, women leaders managed to provide inputs and comments on the National Report on the implementation of Iraq's 1325 National Action Plan on UNSCR1325 which sets the priority areas to the ongoing drafting of the second INAP 1325. The project outputs were achieved with the support of the Department for Women Empowerment-in Baghdad under the leadership of the Council of Ministers. The project was implemented also in close coordination with the High Committee for the Advancement of Women in Baghdad and the High Council of Women Affairs in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Collaboration with other UN agencies through the Gender Task Force chaired by UN Women in joint work with the parliamentarians and relevant governorates stakeholders was also critical.

The Iraq Trust Fund was extended for one more year in coordination to with the Ministry of Planning to answer for emerging needs in the areas of displacements, environment and support for SDGs acceleration.

The information contained within the remainder of the report is consolidated based on information and data provided in the individual progress reports prepared at country level and financial statements submitted by Participating Organizations at headquarter level to the MPTF Office; as well as information on decisions taken by the Iraq UNDAF Steering Committee throughout the course of the reporting period. It is neither an evaluation of the

Iraq UNDAF Fund nor the MPTF Office’s assessment of the performance of the Participating Organizations tasks that belong to an independent evaluation.

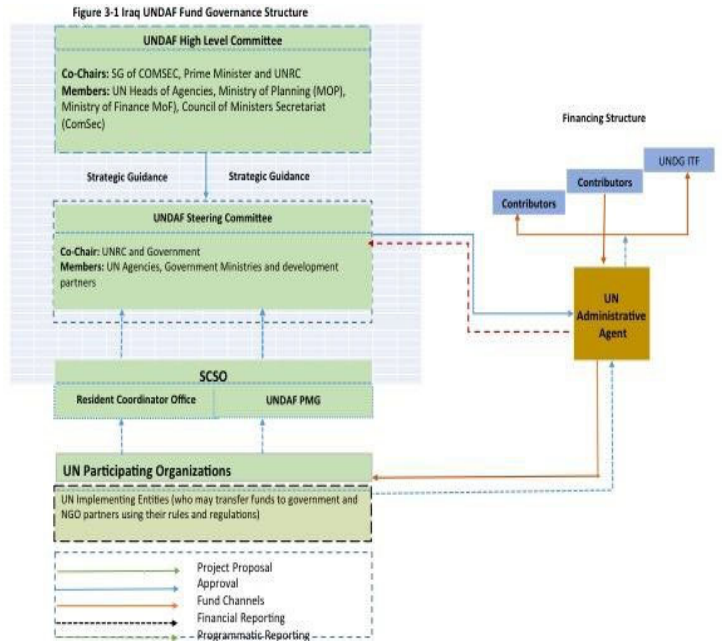
### Governance arrangements

While the Steering Committee composition remained unchanged during the reporting period, it mainly met regularly at the Co-Chairs levels. The strategic and operational mechanisms such as the High-Level Committee (HLC) and the Steering Committee (SC), the Support office for the SC, the UNDAF PWG, etc. were simply not established since the UNDAF 2015-2019 did not materialize. The functions of the Steering Committee Support Office were minimalized and assumed by the Resident Coordinator Office. These include the programs monitoring and reporting as well as the follow up on specific requests by projects funded by the Fund. The below UNDAF structure arrangements was developed to be established when UNDAF is operational to ensure that the fund management, oversight and other functions are equally provided for within the scope of the various structures.

The following section outlines the roles and processes and describes how they contributed to the overall governance and accountability of the Iraq UNDAF Fund.

#### The High-Level Committee and the Steering Committee

The joint High-Level Committee (HLC) was designed by the UNCT and the Government of Iraq to provide the overall strategic direction for the UN-GOI development partnership. The HLC, Co-Chaired by the Secretary of Council of Ministers (COMSEC) and the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Development & Humanitarian/UN Resident Coordinator, RC) periodically reviews achievements and strategic management issues arising from the



implementation of the UNDAF and take decisions to adjust the scope and geography to ensure achievement of agreed results. The Membership consists of UN Heads of Agencies (HoAs), and high-level representation from the Ministry of Planning (MoP), the Ministry of Finance (MoF), and the Council of Ministers Secretariat (CoMSec) including members from Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI).

Based on the strategic directions provided by the HLC, the UNDAF Steering Committee (SC) coordinates and oversees the operations of the Iraq UNDAF Fund and provides overall strategic guidance and oversight, as well as acts as a decision-making body for fund allocation. The SC is co-chaired by the Government (Co-Chairperson, Secretary of COMSEC) and the UN (Co-Chairperson Resident Coordinator) with balanced representation from the GoI and the UN, including representation from line Ministries, the UNCT and donors contributing to the Fund. The SC met for the last time in 2014 and only emails exchanged since then mainly between the Co-Chairpersons. The membership remained also the same since 2013.



### **Steering Committee Support Office (SCSO)**

In principle, the mandate of the SCSO is to support and facilitate the work of the Steering Committee, including assistance in proposal development, as well as review of submissions prior to the Steering Committee's approval. The SCSO also tracks the status of the proposals, provides advice to the Participating UN Organizations and Steering Committee, and follows up on decisions taken by the various contributing structures to ensure timely follow-up and adherence to agreed Iraq UNDAF Fund procedures.

### **The UNDAF Programme Working Group**

The UNCT and GOI are supposed to jointly manage the UNDAF through Programme Working Group comprised of all Agencies, Ministries and other partners contributing to the achievement of the UNDAF priority results but this group has not been set up due to the UNDAF hold on. The group was supposed to manage the collective effort toward priority results and outcomes achievements. A Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Group for evidence-based decision-making as well as other UNCT coordination mechanisms (i.e. GTF, Policy Engagement WG, Youth Task Force, Returnees TF, etc. were established in 2016 in preparation of the UNDAF review and adjustment.

### **Administrative Agent (AA)/Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office)**

The role of the MPTF Office, as the AA for the Iraq UNDAF Fund, includes the receipt, administration and management of contributions from donors, disbursement of funds to Participating UN Organizations in accordance with decisions of the Steering Committee, consolidation and dissemination of progress reports to the MoP and donors. The consolidated report produced by the MPTF Office presents the progress of the projects funded by the Iraq UNDAF Fund, narrative and financial, aligned to the PWG structure. Through the MPTF Office GATEWAY, a public website on all MPTFs administered by the MPTF Office, it ensures

full transparency of the operations of the Iraq UNDAF Fund.

## **Project/programme achievements**

### **P1-08 Invigorating Women's Political Participation in Iraq**

#### **Project objectives and rationale**

The project "Invigorating Women's Political Participation in Iraq" contributed to the Strategic Planning Framework of the UN System in Iraq, specifically the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

Through this project, UN Women aims at strengthening women's political participation through capitalizing on national priorities. The project has also drawn on UN Women's Strategic Note 2016-2019. The project has two main outcomes to achieve: (I) Women's increased participation in decision making, political and peace processes at federal and regional levels; and (II) Enhanced government accountability and capacity to promote women leadership and implementation of international commitments.

Despite the challenges Iraq is currently facing, primarily the high levels of security and political instability following popular protests in 2019, UN Women continued to provide assistance to the government, Parliament and civil society organisations (CSOs) and enhanced the alliance and strategic cooperation with the Iraqi Government, Parliament and CSOs.

#### **Overall project achievement and results**

##### **Project Outcomes:**

**Outcome 1: Women's increased participation in decision making, political and peace processes at federal and regional levels**

**Indicator: # of women in national and subnational peace and political processes**

In 2018- 2019, UN Women organised around thirty workshops and meetings through both the German project (Enhancing Women’s Leadership for Sustainable Peace in Fragile Contexts in the MENA Region) and the UN Trust Fund targeting 83 women’s leaders and parliamentarians at federal level on leadership/engendered legislation and negotiation/communication, in line with the advancement of gender equality and women’s empowerment agenda throughout the country. Through capacity assessments carried by UN Women in the reporting year, trained women leaders reported to have increased their capacities to engage in leadership contests, gender mainstreaming and women’s empowerment in policies/laws, communications. As an example, trained women enhanced their skills in communication and public-speaking during parliamentary sessions as well as through mass media interviews via national and local televisions. Furthermore, the trainings served to build consensus on relevant topics for the women’s’ leadership agenda in Iraq, as for example the necessity to establish the Ministry of Women’s Affairs, the amendment of the National Law to Protect Women Against Violence (known as the Family Protection Law) and the repeal of several discriminatory articles

against women of the Iraqi Penal Code.

Result: 78 women leaders involved in national and subnational peace and political processes and trained in gender mainstreaming/leadership and negotiations

**Outcome 2: Enhanced government accountability and capacity to promote women leadership and implementation of international commitments**

**Indicator: % of Iraqi Officials supporting women participation in decision making and political processes**

Iraq submitted its Beijing +25 report in May 2019 to the regional commission following full support and technical assistance from UN Women. The Beijing report reported on all women achievements for the last five years and provided the national priorities for the next five years. The drafting Committee was able to provide a report where both government counterparts and civil society representative came up with one common report, including the input of the KRG representatives. UN Women provided its technical assistance to the government in fulfilling its reporting obligations on ratified or adopted international instruments. Accordingly, the Beijing +25 Report has been submitted to the regional commission, in May 2019. UN Women supported



technically and financially the Iraqi Delegation who attended the Expert Group meeting to discuss the "Regional Report on Progress in the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in the Arab Region Twenty-Five Years Later" (Beirut, 25-26 September, 2019). The meeting was an opportunity for the Iraqi delegation to share their challenges and lessons learnt in the context of the implementation of Beijing Platform for Action 12 areas of concern.

UN Women is also supporting the drafting of the National Women Strategy on the Enhancement of the status of Iraqi Women (2019-2022). This support is in response to the SG of the Council of Ministers, who nominated a national Committee, who already met twice in September 2019. UN Women has been able to draft a log frame so far based on the agreed upon Strategic goals, which was discussed in further detail during October meeting, 2019. However, and due to the political context, the whole process was postponed due to the resignation of the government and a long transition period. UN Women stands ready to continue providing its technical assistance to finalize the Strategy, especially with the new Leadership of the Iraqi women machinery.

**Project Outputs:**

**Output 1.1: Increased women capacities to engage in leadership contests, and in peace and reconciliation processes.**

**Indicator 1.1.1 # of women trained and mentored**

During the reporting period, UN Women worked with Iraqi women members of Parliament (MPs) to establish a core group of Iraqi Women MPs within the Council of Representatives. The core group has been established to prepare for the formation of the Caucus of Women's Parliamentarians to address and advance the Gender and Women Empowerment Agenda, while enforcing the participation of Iraqi women in political leadership and decision-making

processes at all political, economic and social levels. In October 2018, UN Women launched the Caucus of women's parliamentarians in Iraq with the aim to enhance the coordination and leadership empowerment at political level. Evidence collected by UN Women showed that encouraging women leaders will help strengthen policies and legislation for greater gender equality<sup>1</sup>. In this light, women leaders engaged in UN Women's projects consistently showed political leadership by working across party lines through the parliamentary women's caucus and by championing issues of gender equality, such as the amendment of the national law on preventing violence against women and girls, and gender-sensitive policies. The changes reported contributed towards the efforts of promoting the meaningful participation of women political leaders in line with SDG 5 -Target 5.5: to ensure women's full participation and leadership in decision-making.

Result: 78 women leaders participating in the women parliamentarian caucus reported to have increased government engagement to promote and institute gender plan and policies. 100% of the output was reached.

UN Women continuously supports the parliamentary women caucus and supported the establishment of an alliance for The Iraqi women leaders that leads the women agenda in Iraq government, to advocate for the re-establishment of the Ministry of Women. The women involved are the president's advisor for Women related affairs; Ms. Khanum Latif, Advisor to the Prime Minister on women's affairs; Ms. Hana Alftlawy, Mayor of Baghdad; Ms. Thikra Alwash, Head of Women MPs Caucus; Ms. Ala Talabani and Ms. Haifaa Alamin, Head of Women's Committee in Parliament.

The Women MPs Caucus issued 3 quarterly newsletters with the support of UN Women. The newsletter covered MPs activities, substantive review of the work on the anti-domestic violence law and other features.

<sup>1</sup> IPU, 2008, *Equality in Politics: A Survey of Men and Women in Parliaments*

During the project cycle, a number of meetings with Iraqi Women's Leaders have been arranged to discuss fluctuation of the political situation, especially the resignation case of Haifa Almain the head of women committees in Iraq parliament and women demonstrator needs.

As reported by Haifa al Ameen (MP): "The quota law, which was included in the Iraqi Constitution in 2005, gave women 25% of the seats in the Iraqi Parliament. Despite that, this percentage was not achieved in the executive authority, and we are working hard and advocating to enable this law to be included not only in the parliament but in all positions in the executive power".

#### **Indicator 1.1.2 # of women engaged in reconciliation and peace processes**

UN Women worked in close collaboration with women's organizations to achieve women equal and full participation in the prevention and resolution of conflict, in negotiations, peacebuilding and reconstruction. UN Women supported the Alliance 1325 (a Network of around 30 Iraqi women NGOs) to address the emerging needs and urgent priorities related to the INAP. Through capacity assessments carried out by UN Women in the reporting year, trained women leaders in CSOs and political leaders reported to have increased their capacities to engage in peace and reconciliation processes.

#### **Output 1.2: Networking and coalition building are promoted among women CSOs at national and regional levels**

UN Women continued its efforts to include youth in the political process by facilitating and supporting the formation of a youth alliance. The alliance was developed following the networking and discussions that occurred during a workshop in September 2019 entitled 'Women and Young People in Peace Processes: Synergies and Cross-Learning' and a follow-up meeting held later that

year in December 2019. It was named 'Youth 21' and comprised 13 young women and two young men from across all of Iraq's governorates. The goal of it was to serve as a platform for continued networking, knowledge exchange and the development of strategies for increased youth influence in Iraq's political landscape, including on inclusive recovery/reconstruction and reconciliation.

#### **Indicator 1.2.1: Established women coalition**

Teams may be portrayed as productive work groups whose effectiveness rest in the degree of motivation, coordination and individual involvement. These elements of effectiveness also play as a solid foundation in preventing or managing potential conflicts. Therefore, it is essential to develop the team culture to ease managing conflicts or even prevent them from happening. Similarly, diverse groups bring creativity and diverse inputs into the working team, yet also could fetch diverse challenges of which team members need to be aware of to overcome fluidly. For building a solid foundation for a team that are diverse, it is important to bring members together in a common respected culture they create together and build trust between them in order to assure the progress and achievement of deliverables.

As a follow up to the workshop titled "Women and Young People in the Peace Processes: Synergies and Cross-Learning" which was held for 45 participants in Beirut in September 2019; a second workshop was held, consisting of 15 young participants in Jordan in December 2019. The announcement of a youth alliance that aims to develop youth's political awareness and their skills towards the aim of improving women's political participation was formed under the name Youth 21 Alliance with the full support of UN Women, consisting of 15 young active members from all the

governorates of Iraq (13 females and 2 males). The focus of UN Women is on the youth, since their input is crucial and there have been many women leader alliances formed but none specifically for potential women leaders. Thus, UN Women found it necessary to give the potential youth a chance to enhance their political awareness and skills, to become the future women leaders of the country.

**Output 2.1: Electoral arrangements enhance women's political participation and leadership measures put in place to encourage participation in elections; voter outreach**

**Indicator 2.1.1: # of profiles for women leaders collected**

More than 100 Iraqi women leader profiles have been collected and disseminated on UN Women social media platforms, this not only enhances the roles these women have in their communities and on the country, but it also encourages other women and girls to achieve what they have achieved and try harder to succeed. Since Iraq is a male dominated country<sup>2</sup>, women encounter many challenges to thrive in their personal and professional lives . Therefore, showcasing successful women is expected to encourage more women and young girls.

**Indicator 2.1.2: # of advocacy messages and materials produced**

A video of presentation on UN Women Iraq's programmes was developed in Q2 2018. The video shows the advocacy efforts of UN Women with the different Women Machineries, Women parliamentarians and civil society concerning women empowerment and political leadership. The CO Facebook page covered all the advocacy campaign for women's political participation with more than 50 posts<sup>3</sup>. Moreover, around 15

interviews with mass media were organized covering the advocacy campaign on women's political empowerment and leadership.

The Regional Director of UN Women said on the 15th of September in the occasion of his visit to Iraq that women's political participation is essential for achieving equality, sustainable development, peace and democracy. "We have great hope to respond to the demands of the women of Iraq mothers and daughters, because the active participation of women, who represent half of society, will achieve security, stability and prosperity and push ahead with progress and sustainable development in Iraq".

Moreover, UN Women Iraq Country Representative Ms. Dina Zorba conducted campaign visits, meet with all head of political blocks and international community to call on Iraqi leaders to take practical and decisive measures to ensure that women assumed leadership roles in government to promote sustainable development and peace. UN Women, MPs, and activists have received positive feedbacks from leaders who confirmed their commitment in advocating for women participation in the cabinet, head of committees, and reinstating of the Ministry of Women Affairs.

This activity reached 30% of the output and it will continue in Q4 2018

UN Women is working with the United Nations sister agencies in Iraq to promote dialogue and peace in these turbulent times, enhancing the participation of women and girls in the dialogue for peace-building and political participation. UN Women is also trying to boost women's morale by publishing women success stories. UN Women aims at reducing GBV and domestic violence by publishing success stories of survivors of GBV, to spread awareness to the women of Iraq about abuse and to empower the women to stand up for themselves.

<sup>2</sup> International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), 2009. Status of Women in the Middle East and North Africa. Available from: URL [www.ifes.org](http://www.ifes.org).

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/unwomeniraq/>

**Output 2.2: Capacity of Women Machineries enhanced to lobby for women leadership**

**Indicator 2.2.1: # WM led initiatives adopted by government, legislative councils, and parties.**

At the national level, UN Women has been working closely with the members of the parliament on making amendments on the Anti-Domestic Violence Law, which was presented to the Federal Government Parliament at the end of 2019. Through trainings and discussions regarding the law; UN Women aims to advocate and lobby for the passing of the law in the parliament.

Parallel to this campaign, UN Women is implementing an advocacy campaign to advocate for the passing of the Anti-Domestic Law with the public through publishing anti domestic violence messages on the official UN Women social media platforms,

and raising the Iraqi people’s awareness on Gender Based Violence.

The anti-government demonstrations broke out in October 2019 against the lack of basic services and economic opportunities as well as the suspension of all productive sectors had a great impact on the political, economic, and social scenes. UN Women’s intervention should strategically prioritize the inclusion, representation and protection of women as well as guarantee their social, political, and economic rights.

**Delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learned & best practices**

During the implementation of projects activities, UN Women faced several challenges and some were lingering due to delays in the formulation of the parliament and the government. Accordingly, it was



necessary to shift the time line for many strategic

processes and activities within this project. In the reporting period, UN Women learned to reach out to all Iraqi segments and factions to include inclusiveness of the political support process through high level meetings with male religious and political authorities, the various heads of parliamentarian committees and political party leaders and the international community. Furthermore, UN Women realized the need to build capacities of Parliamentarian Staff/Secretariat on gender equality and gender mainstreaming with the objective for them to be able to advocate for gender equality and women's empowerment.

**Qualitative assessment:**

Evidence collected by UN Women showed that encouraging women leaders will help strengthen policies and legislation for gender equality. In this light, women leaders engaged in UN Women's projects consistently showed political leadership by working across party lines through the parliamentary women's Caucus and by championing issues of gender equality, such as the amendment of the national law on preventing violence against girls, and gender-sensitive policies.

The project implementation in showed the importance of relying on the role of the youth in peace-making operations through their lack of affiliation with political bodies and their commitment to implement gender-responsive action and engagement with UN Women's project. Another successful experience with the youth is their knowledge, energy and interest in working remotely and virtually, applying technology means which reaches a far greater audience than relying on old and traditional methods.

Indicator Based Performance Assessment

	<b><u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)</b>	<b>Source of Verification</b>
<p><b>Outcome 1<sup>4</sup> : Women’s increased participation in decision making, political and peace processes at federal and regional levels.</b></p> <p><b>Indicator: # of women in national and subnational peace and political processes</b></p>	<p>90 women participated in national and subnational peace processes Progress indicator: 100%</p>	N/A	Progress Report on the implementation of Iraq’s 1325 National Action Plan.
<p><b>Output 1.1: Increased women capacities to engage in leadership contests, and in peace and reconciliation processes.</b></p> <p><b><u>Indicator 1.1.1</u> # of women trained and mentored</b></p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target: 40</b></p>	<p><b><u>1.1.1.</u></b> 78 women leaders participating in the women parliamentarian caucus reported to have increased government engagement to promote and institute gender plan and policies.</p> <p>Progress indicator: 100%</p>	N/A	Pre and Post- training test, Attendance sheets, UN Women progress reports.
<p><b><u>Indicator 1.1.2</u> # of women engaged in reconciliation and peace processes</b></p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target: 50</b></p>	<p><b><u>1.1.2</u></b> 60 women have been engaged in reconciliation and peace processes.</p> <p>Progress indicator: 100%</p>	N/A	Workshops and meeting records, UN Women assessment and progress reports.

<sup>4</sup> Note: Outcomes, outputs, indicators and targets should be **as outlined in the Project Document** so that you report on your **actual achievements against planned targets**. Add rows as required for Outcome 2, 3 etc.



<p><b>Output 1.2: Networking and coalition building are promoted among women CSOs at national and regional levels</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 1.2.1</b></p> <p><b>Established women coalition</b></p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target: 1</b></p>	<p>A platform was established and 78 women parliament members were trained.</p> <p>Progress indicator: 100%</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>workshop training materials and reports</p>
<p><b>Outcome 2: Enhanced government accountability and capacity to promote women leadership and implementation of international commitments</b></p> <p><b>Indicator: % of Iraqi Officials supporting women participation in decision making and political processes</b></p>	<p>Technical and financial assistance was provided for Improving the performance and responsiveness of targeted national and sub-national institutions, 25 women from CSOs and Government were trained.</p>		<p>Training records and Progress report</p>
<p><b>Output 2.1</b></p> <p><b>Electoral arrangements enhance women’s political participation and leadership measures put in place to encourage participation in elections; voter outreach</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 2.1.1</b></p> <p><b># of profiles for women leaders collected</b></p>	<p><b>2.1.2.</b> 100 Iraqi women leader profiles have been collected and disseminated on UN Women social media platforms</p> <p>Progress indicator: 100%</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>collected profiles and Communications Materials</p>

<p><b>Baseline: 0</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target: 50</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 2.1.2</b></p> <p><b># of advocacy messages and materials produced</b></p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target: 10</b></p>	<p><b>2.1.2</b> 50 posts /news on UN Women’s Iraq Facebook and 15 interviews were conducted</p> <p>Progress indicator: 100%</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>UN Women Iraq Facebook page and Mass media clipping</p>
<p><b>Output 2.2:</b></p> <p><b>Capacity of Women Machineries enhanced to lobby for women leadership</b></p> <p><b>Indicator</b></p> <p><b># WM led initiatives adopted by government, legislative councils, and parties.</b></p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target: 3</b></p>	<p>3 meetings were conducted to parliament members on making amendments on the Anti-Domestic Violence Law</p> <p>Advocacy campaign for the passing of the Anti-Domestic Law was implemented</p> <p>Progress indicator: 100%</p>	<p>N/ A</p>	<p>Meeting records and Anti-Domestic law draft document.</p>

## A Specific Story

**Problem / Challenge faced:**

During the reporting period, the project implementation faced some difficulties to find consensus among the members of the Caucus as their priorities seemed to be more responsive to political parties' interests rather than the Caucus' agenda and set priority areas. This was reflected in the necessity to have more negotiations meeting to reach consensus, all factors that slightly delayed the implementation of the project following the set timeframe. Also, this programme's planned activities faced several interruptions, and some were lingering due to delays in the formulation of the parliament and the government, moreover what is Iraq's street faced the demonstration last October 2019 and resignation the Iraqi government, and finally the outbreak of COVID-19 in February 2020.

**Programme Interventions:**

UN Women is working closely with the Caucus members to find common grounds specifically in the issues related to engendered legislation. This strategy was used firstly to build consensus on the most pressing gender equality priorities at legislative level and as a common exercise to find out common goals and objectives and reach understanding and coordination among the women parliamentarians.

**Result (if applicable):**

Evidence collected by UN Women showed that encouraging women leaders will help strengthening policies and legislation for gender equality. In this light, women leaders engaged in UN Women's projects consistently showed political leadership by working across party lines through the parliamentary women's Caucus and by championing issues of gender equality, such as the amendment of the national law on preventing violence against girls, and gender-sensitive policies. The changes reported contributed towards the efforts of promoting the meaningful participation of women political leaders in line with SDG 5 – Target 5.5 to ensure women's full participation and leadership in decision-making process.

**Lessons Learned:**

UN Women learned that there is a need to reach out to all women MPs to build their capacities (including trainings on gender and basic legal knowledge) which will enable them to lead in political leadership and foster the gender equality agenda which goes beyond political parties' interest.

In the reporting year, UN Women learned to reach out to all Iraqi segments and factions to include inclusiveness of the political support process through high level meetings with male religious and political authorities, the various heads of parliamentarian committees and political party leaders and the international community. Furthermore, UN Women realized the need to build capacities of Parliamentarian Staff/Secretariat on gender equality and gender mainstreaming with the objective for them to be able to advocate for gender equality and women's empowerment.

## II. CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT

### Introduction

This Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the **Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund** is prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) in fulfillment of its obligations as Administrative Agent, as per the terms of Reference (TOR), the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the UNDP MPTF Office and the Participating Organizations, and the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) signed with contributors.

The MPTF Office, as Administrative Agent, is responsible for concluding an MOU with Participating Organizations and SAAs with contributors. It receives, administers and

manages contributions, and disburses these funds to the Participating Organizations. The Administrative Agent prepares and submits annual consolidated financial reports, as well as regular financial statements, for transmission to contributors.

This consolidated financial report covers the period 1 January to 31 December **2020** and provides financial data on progress made in the implementation of projects of the **Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund**. It is posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/IRQ00>).

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

## 2020 Financial Performance

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the **Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund** using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December **2020**. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address: <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/IRQ00>.

### 1. Sources and Uses of Funds

As of 31 December **2020**, **23** contributors deposited US\$ **45,695,182** in contributions and US\$ **397,155** was earned in interest.

The cumulative source of funds was US\$ **46,092,337** (see respectively, Tables 2 and 3)

Of this amount, US\$ **43,135,214** has been net funded to **11** Participating Organizations, of which US\$ **43,066,698** has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US\$ **456,952**. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the **Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund** as of 31 December 2020.

Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

	Annual 2019	Annual 2020	Cumulative
<b>Sources of Funds</b>			
Contributions from donors	-	-	45,695,182
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	58,896	27,526	383,265
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations	-	-	13,890
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors	-	-	-
Fund balance transferred to another MDTF	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-
<b>Total: Sources of Funds</b>	<b>58,896</b>	<b>27,526</b>	<b>46,092,337</b>
<b>Use of Funds</b>			
Transfers to Participating Organizations	150,000	-	43,517,210
Refunds received from Participating Organizations	(80,696)	(24,199)	(436,563)
<b>Net Funded Amount</b>	<b>69,304</b>	<b>(24,199)</b>	<b>43,080,647</b>
Administrative Agent Fees	-	-	456,952
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat...etc.)	-	-	54,567
Bank Charges	60	73	2,733
Other Expenditures	-	-	-
<b>Total: Uses of Funds</b>	<b>69,364</b>	<b>(24,126)</b>	<b>43,594,898</b>

<b>Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent</b>	<b>(10,468)</b>	<b>51,652</b>	<b>2,497,439</b>
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	2,456,255	2,445,786	-
<b>Closing Fund balance (31 December)</b>	<b>2,445,786</b>	<b>2,497,439</b>	<b>2,497,439</b>
Net Funded Amount (Includes Direct Cost)	69,304	(24,199)	43,135,214
Participating Organizations' Expenditure (Includes Direct Cost)	2,620,475	687,312	43,066,698
<b>Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations</b>			<b>68,515</b>

## 2. Partner Contributions

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this Fund as of 31 December 2020.

The Iraq UNDAF Trust Fund is currently being financed by 23 contributors, as listed in the table below.

The table below includes commitments made up to 31 December 2020 through signed Standard Administrative Agreements, and deposits made through 2020. It does not include commitments that were made to the fund beyond 2020.

Table 2. Contributors' Commitments and Deposits, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Contributors	Total Commitments	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019 Deposits	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020 Deposits	Total Deposits
AUSTRALIA, Government of	1,508,542	1,508,542	-	1,508,542
BELGIUM, Government of	62,934	62,934	-	62,934
CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	3,038,778	3,038,778	-	3,038,778
DENMARK, Government of	9,879,518	9,879,518	-	9,879,518
FINLAND, Government of	366,859	366,859	-	366,859
GREECE, Government of	172,928	172,928	-	172,928
ICELAND, Government of	23,820	23,820	-	23,820
INDIA, Government of	238,205	238,205	-	238,205
IRELAND, Government of	58,427	58,427	-	58,427
ITALY, Government of	1,869,040	1,869,040	-	1,869,040
JAPAN, Government of	17,196,013	17,196,013	-	17,196,013
KUWAIT, Government of	238,205	238,205	-	238,205
LUXEMBOURG, Government of	110,475	110,475	-	110,475
NETHERLANDS, Government of	319,051	319,051	-	319,051
NEW ZEALAND, Government of	160,305	160,305	-	160,305
NORWAY, Government of	333,929	333,929	-	333,929
QATAR, Government of	238,205	238,205	-	238,205
REPUBLIC of KOREA, Government of	1,000,459	1,000,459	-	1,000,459

SPAIN, Government of	4,438,857	4,438,857	-	4,438,857
SWEDISH INT'L DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION	3,288,930	3,288,930	-	3,288,930
The Scottish Government	484,731	484,731	-	484,731
TURKEY, Government of	428,768	428,768	-	428,768
USAID	238,205	238,205	-	238,205
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>45,695,182</b>	<b>45,695,182</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>45,695,182</b>



### 3. Interest Earned

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent (Fund earned interest), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations (Agency earned interest) where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the AA.

As of 31 December **2020**, Fund earned interest amounts to US\$ **383,265**.

Interest received from Participating Organizations amounts to US\$ **13,890**, bringing the cumulative interest received to US\$ **397,155**.

Details are provided in the table below.

Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	Total
<b>Administrative Agent</b>			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	355,739	27,526	383,265
<b>Total: Fund Earned Interest</b>	<b>355,739</b>	<b>27,526</b>	<b>383,265</b>
<b>Participating Organization</b>			
FAO	36		36
UNESCO	13,854		13,854
<b>Total: Agency earned interest</b>	<b>13,890</b>		<b>13,890</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>369,629</b>	<b>27,526</b>	<b>397,155</b>

#### 4. Transfer of Funds

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2020, the AA has transferred US\$ 43,517,210 to 11 Participating Organizations (see list below).

#### 4.1 TRANSFER BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

**Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)**

Participating Organization	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019			Current Year Jan-Dec-2020			Total		
	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded
ESCWA	717,608	(48,317)	669,291				717,608	(48,317)	669,291
FAO	140,000	(11,560)	128,440				140,000	(11,560)	128,440
UNDP	22,022,086	(243,930)	21,778,156		(22,999)	(22,999)	22,022,086	(266,929)	21,755,157
UNEP	140,000	(33,169)	106,831				140,000	(33,169)	106,831
UNESCO	2,932,229	(23,806)	2,908,423				2,932,229	(23,806)	2,908,423
UNFPA	2,911,094		2,911,094				2,911,094		2,911,094
UNHABITAT	3,293,947		3,293,947				3,293,947		3,293,947
UNICEF	5,047,947	(3,017)	5,044,930				5,047,947	(3,017)	5,044,930
UNOPS	1,038,592	(48,565)	990,027				1,038,592	(48,565)	990,027
UNWOMEN	2,061,895		2,061,895				2,061,895		2,061,895
WHO	3,211,812		3,211,812		(1,200)	(1,200)	3,211,812	(1,200)	3,210,612
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>43,517,210</b>	<b>(412,364)</b>	<b>43,104,846</b>		<b>(24,199)</b>	<b>24,199</b>	<b>43,517,210</b>	<b>(436,563)</b>	<b>43,080,647</b>

## 5. Expenditure and Financial Delivery Rates

All final expenditures reported for the year **2020** were submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization, and are reported as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The reported expenditures were submitted via the MPTF Office's online expenditure reporting tool. The **2020** expenditure data has been posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY at <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/IRQ00>.

### 5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

In **2020**, US\$ **(24,199)** was net funded to Participating Organizations, and US\$ **687,312** was reported in expenditure.

As shown in table below, the cumulative net funded amount is US\$ **43,080,647** and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to US\$ **43,012,131**. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of **100** percent.

The agencies with the three highest delivery rates are: ESCWA (101%), FAO (100%) and UNEP (100%)

Table 5.1 Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate %
			Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	Cumulative	
ESCWA	717,608	669,291	679,315		679,315	101.50
FAO	140,000	128,440	128,440		128,440	100.00
UNDP	22,022,086	21,755,157	21,433,952	252,249	21,686,202	99.68
UNEP	140,000	106,831	106,831		106,831	100.00
UNESCO	2,932,229	2,908,423	2,908,423		2,908,423	100.00
UNFPA	2,911,094	2,911,094	2,911,094		2,911,094	100.00
UNHABITAT	3,293,947	3,293,947	3,209,783	74,580	3,284,363	99.71
UNICEF	6,824,148	5,044,930	5,044,977	(47)	5,044,930	100.00
UNOPS	1,038,592	990,027	990,027		990,027	100.00
UNWOMEN	2,061,932	2,061,895	1,701,364	360,531	2,061,895	100.00
WHO	3,211,812	3,210,612	3,210,613	(1)	3,210,612	100.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>45,293,448</b>	<b>43,080,647</b>	<b>42,324,819</b>	<b>687,312</b>	<b>43,012,131</b>	<b>99.84</b>

## 5.2 Expenditure by Project

Table 5.2 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by Participating Organization.

Table 5.2 Expenditure by Project within Sector, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Sector / Project No.and Project Title		Participating Organization	Project Status	Total Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Total Expenditure	Delivery Rate %
<b>Environment</b>							
00079817	P3-01 Env/Drought Risk Managem	FAO	Financially Closed	140,000	128,440	128,440	100.00
00079817	P3-01 Env/Drought Risk Managem	UNDP	Financially Closed	264,883	264,604	264,604	100.00
00079817	P3-01 Env/Drought Risk Managem	UNEP	Financially Closed	140,000	106,831	106,831	100.00
00079817	P3-01 Env/Drought Risk Managem	UNESCO	Financially Closed	215,001	208,854	208,854	100.00
<b>Environment: Total</b>				<b>759,884</b>	<b>708,729</b>	<b>708,729</b>	<b>100.00</b>

<b>Governance and Human Rights</b>							
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	ESCWA	On Going	717,608	669,291	679,315	101.50
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNDP	On Going	9,483,844	9,483,844	9,414,189	99.27
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNESCO	On Going	2,717,228	2,699,569	2,699,569	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNFPA	On Going	2,161,094	2,161,094	2,161,094	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNHABITAT	On Going	2,393,947	2,393,947	2,243,535	93.72
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNICEF	On Going	4,527,920	3,547,947	3,547,947	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	UNWOMEN	On Going	1,311,932	1,311,932	1,311,932	100.00
00084209	P1-05 Gov/ I-PSM II	WHO	On Going	3,211,812	3,210,612	3,210,612	100.00
00111133	P1-07 Gov/Youth and Prevention	UNFPA	On Going	750,000	750,000	750,000	100.00
00111134	P1-08 Gov/Invigorating Women's	UNWOMEN	On Going	750,000	749,963	749,963	100.00

00111182	P1-09 Gov/Recovery, Reconstruc	UNHABITAT	On Going	900,000	900,000	1,040,828	115.65
00081968	P1-02 Gov/Family Protection fo	UNDP	Operationally Closed	2,467,880	2,425,226	2,425,926	100.03
00081968	P1-02 Gov/Family Protection fo	UNICEF	Operationally Closed	2,296,228	1,496,983	1,496,983	100.00
00081967	P1-01Gov/Empowering CSOs in Ir	UNDP	Financially Closed	2,221,818	2,179,187	2,179,187	100.00
00081969	P1-03 Gov/ID of Anti Corruptio	UNDP	Financially Closed	2,727,273	2,629,927	2,629,927	100.00
00082895	P1-04 Gov/Transparent Particip	UNDP	Financially Closed	3,091,526	3,007,507	3,007,507	100.00
00087994	P1-06 Gov/Support to IHEC ph.2	UNDP	Financially Closed	1,764,862	1,764,862	1,764,862	100.00
00087994	P1-06 Gov/Support to IHEC ph.2	UNOPS	Financially Closed	1,038,592	990,027	990,027	100.00
<b>Governance and Human Rights: Total</b>				<b>44,533,564</b>	<b>42,371,917</b>	<b>42,303,402</b>	<b>99.84</b>

<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>45,293,448</b>	<b>43,080,647</b>	<b>43,012,131</b>	<b>99.84</b>
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### 5.3 Expenditure Reported by Category

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. In 2006 the UN Development Group (UNDG) established six categories against which UN entities must report inter-agency project expenditures. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB) modified these categories as a result of IPSAS adoption to comprise eight categories. All expenditure incurred prior to 1 January 2012 have been reported in the old categories; post 1 January 2012 all expenditure is reported in the new eight categories. See table below.

#### 2012 CEB Expense Categories

1. Staff and personnel costs
2. Supplies, commodities and materials
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation
4. Contractual services
5. Travel
6. Transfers and grants
7. General operating expenses
8. Indirect costs

#### 2006 UNDG Expense Categories

1. Supplies, commodities, equipment & transport
2. Personnel
3. Training counterparts
4. Contracts
5. Other direct costs
6. Indirect costs

Table 5.3. Expenditure by UNDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Category	Expenditure			Percentage of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	Total	
Personnel (Old)	5,599	-	5,599	0.01
Staff & Personnel Cost (New)	12,632,690	85,060	12,717,750	31.66
Suppl, Comm, Materials (New)	353,318	-	353,318	0.88
Equip, Veh, Furn, Depn (New)	525,005	17,615	542,620	1.35
Contractual Services (New)	11,824,852	150,202	11,975,054	29.81
Travel (New)	3,641,855	71,415	3,713,270	9.24
Transfers and Grants (New)	2,620,451	-	2,620,451	6.52
General Operating (New)	7,906,276	335,416	8,241,692	20.52
<b>Programme Costs Total</b>	<b>39,510,046</b>	<b>659,707</b>	<b>40,169,753</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<sup>1</sup> Indirect Support Costs Total	2,814,774	27,605	2,842,379	7.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,324,819</b>	<b>687,312</b>	<b>43,012,131</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Indirect Support Costs charged by Participating Organization, based on their financial regulations, can be deducted upfront or at a later stage during implementation. The percentage may therefore appear to exceed the 7% agreed-upon for on-going projects. Once projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.

## 6. COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2020, were as follows:

- **The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:** 1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. In the reporting period US\$ was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2020, US\$ 456,952 has been charged in AA-fees.
- **Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:** Participating Organizations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period US\$ 27,605 was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US\$ 2,842,379 as of 31 December 2020.

## 7. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

## 8. DIRECT COSTS

The Fund governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organization to cover costs associated with Secretariat services and overall coordination, as well as Fund level reviews and evaluations. These allocations are referred to as 'direct costs'. In the reporting period, direct costs charged to the fund amounted to US\$ 0. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2020, US\$ 54,567 has been charged as Direct Costs.

**Table 8: Direct Costs**

Participating Organization	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	De
	54,567	54,567	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>54,567</b>	<b>54,567</b>	