

UNCT SWAP Gender Scorecard
Annual Reporting
2019

Country:

Iraq

Year:

2019

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UN Agencies participating at the exercise:

UN Women, UNDP, RCO, UN-HABITAT, UNOPS, UNMAS and IOM

UN Agencies part of the Inter-Agency Gender Task Force in Iraq:

UN Women, UNAMI, UNDP, UNFPA, IOM, FAO, UN HABITAT, UNOPS, UNMAS, WHO, WFP, UNHCR and UNICEF.

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I. Background

The **UNCT SWAP-Gender Scorecard** is a globally standardized rapid assessment of UN country level gender mainstreaming practices. The framework is designed to foster adherence to minimum standards for gender equality processes set by the undg. The SWAP-Scorecard focuses on the performance of the UN system as a whole, rather than the achievements of any single agency. By focusing on gender mainstreaming processes at the country level, the tool highlights the growing importance of interagency collaboration and coordination to achieve GEWE results at the country level.

The 'Gender Scorecard' was endorsed by the undg in 2008 in response to the UN Chief Executive Board for Coordination 2006 Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (CEB/2006/2) to establish an accountability framework for assessing the effectiveness of gender mainstreaming by UN Country Teams. The UN System-Wide Action Plan for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP) formed another part of the accountability framework, focusing on the implementation of the policy at the entity level. For the first time in UN history, the UN-SWAP enabled gender issues to be mainstreamed systematically and measurably into all major institutional functions of the UN system entities.

Implemented from 2012 to 2017, the first phase of UN-SWAP consisted of 15 performance indicators based on intergovernmental mandates. A total of 66 UN entities (94 per cent), corresponding to more than 99 per cent of the UN budget, reported on progress annually. The framework uses a five-point rating scale ranging from "not applicable" to "exceeds requirements" for every performance indicator. This allows progress to be defined uniformly, measured progressively, and articulated aspirationally. Upon expiry of the initial UN-SWAP duration, a second generation of the UN-SWAP was developed with widespread consultation across UN system entities and launched in 2018. It updated and expanded UN-SWAP, building into it refinements and lessons learned, as well as aligning it with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with its focus on results. While the first phase of UN-SWAP implementation focused on gender mainstreaming and planning, the second phase is designed to focus on results, and includes monitoring activities and outcomes for gender-related Sustainable Development Goal results.

II. Methodology

The SWAP-Scorecard measures gender mainstreaming in UN common programming processes across seven dimensions that encompass 15 indicators to present a holistic overview of UN development work and institutional arrangements. The seven-dimension areas are: planning; programming, monitoring and evaluation; partnerships; leadership and organizational culture; gender architecture and capacities; financial resources; and results. The participatory assessment methodology relies on cross-sectoral consultation and collective analysis to rate the country team for each indicator against minimum standards.

In 2017, Iraq was part of the SWAP-Scorecard assessment in Iraq was as the fifth pilot of the tool globally. It was one of two pilots conducted in a context dominated by conflict and humanitarian needs. The assessment process was coordinated jointly by the UNDP and UN Women country offices with support provided by the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO). In January 2020, Iraq undertook the UNCT-SWAP Annual reporting covering 2019 with the aim to support UNCT to achieve over time all UNCT-SWAP performance standards, stimulating UNCT discussions on performance results, as well as on actions needed to improve performance. The 2019 annual report used as a baseline the results of the SWAP Gender Scorecard report developed in 2017. Dimension areas and related indicators were selected to be assessed based on those for which the baseline values still apply and based on availability of data (11 over 15 indicators were assessed in comparison with the 2017 baseline). This report includes an analysis of the progress made in line with the Action Plan Iraq - SWAP-Scorecard developed last February 2017 (the action plan outcomes were integrated in the UN Gender Task Force Work Plan 2019-2020).

The technical team in Iraq was comprised of a Gender Specialist from UN WOMEN (based in Erbil), a Gender Specialist from UNDP (based in Baghdad) under the supervision of the Deputy Representative from UN Women in Iraq. The UNCT SWAP-Scorecard data collection tool was designed by UN Women HQ and was shared with the UNCT in Iraq to undertake the annual reporting for 2019. UN Women and UNDP coordinated the exercise through the Interagency Gender Task Force (GTF) in Iraq in January 2019. GTF members, based in Baghdad and Erbil, worked collaboratively to provide a rationale and supporting evidence for each rating. Specifically, UN Agencies engaged in the 2019 reporting are: UN Women, UNDP, RCO, UN-HABITAT, UNOPS, UNMAS and IOM.

Gender specialists worked simultaneously from Baghdad and Erbil to provide support as needed through dialogue to explore the best means of adapting indicators to the Iraqi context. Key UN Agencies reviewed the methodology, indicators and guidance notes with the support of a dedicated Gender Specialist from UN Women Iraq Country Office to deepen understanding of the assessment process. The second phase was the analysis of collected information against performance indicators coordinated by UN Women and UNDP. Finally, UN Women drafted the 2019 UNCT SWAP-Scorecard report and submitted the report. Results will be presented to the Heads of Agencies at the next available high-level meeting following finalization of the report.

UNCT developed in Iraq the **CCA** (2019) and **UNSDCF** (2020-2024). It is expected that the UNSDCF Monitoring and Evaluation Plan will be finalized in Q1 of 2020. The Cooperation Framework (UNDAF/CF) is focused on four main Strategic Priorities:

1. Achieving Social Cohesion, Protection and Inclusion.
2. Growing Economy for All.
3. Promoting Effective, Inclusive and Efficient Institutions and Services.
4. Natural Resources, Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Resilience.

The 2019 annual report assesses the CCA 2019 and UNSDCF 2020-2024 in Iraq. Assessment of the M&E framework was not possible because the M&E matrix is not yet finalized.

III. RESULTS

Scoring

Missing requirements	Approaches requirements	Meets requirements	Exceeds requirements
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Overview (2019)

Indicator			Missing requirements	Approaches requirements	Meets requirements	Exceeds requirements
1. PLANNING	1.1	Common Country Analysis				
	1.2	UNDAF outcomes				
	1.3	UNDAF indicators				
2. PROGRAMMING AND M&E	2.1	Joint Programs				
	2.2	Communication and advocacy				
	2.3	UNDAF monitoring and evaluation	Not assessed			
3. PARTNERSHIP	3.1	Engagement with government				
	3.2	Engagement with women's/gender equality CSO				
4. LEADERSHIP AND	4.1	Leadership				
	4.2	Organisational culture	Not assessed			
	4.3	Gender parity	Not assessed			
5. GENDER ARCHITECT	5.1	Gender coordination mechanism				
	5.2	Capacities for gender mainstreaming				
6. RESO	6.1	Financial resources				
7. RESU	7.1	Results	Not assessed			

Dimension Area 1: Planning

Indicator: 1.1 Common Country Analysis	Score: Meets Requirements
<p>Results:</p> <p><u>Baseline 2017:</u> Approaches minimum standards (UN-SWAP Comprehensive Report 2017 for Iraq)</p> <p><u>Progress status 2019:</u> Improved</p> <p><u>This phase consisted on assessing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. A comprehensive reading of the United Nations Country Team for Iraq ‘<i>Common Country Analysis (CCA) 2019: A new Transitioning Forwards to a New Iraq</i>’ report to identify gender-disaggregated quantitative and qualitative information and data. B. An analytical review of the various parts of the report, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The executive summary 2. The analysis of key development and challenges, which examines the demographic profile, the political context, the status of women, the economic context, the humanitarian overview. This analysis identified four themes of priority interventions: (Governance, Inclusive economic Growth, Stabilization and Peacebuilding, Reconstruction and Access to Basic Services). 3. Priority thematic areas, each consisting of sub-chapters and which have been discussed. 4. Key findings and conclusions. <p><u>Result 1:</u></p> <p>The CCA overall document includes a gender analysis, in terms of numerical data and, when necessary, by reporting information reflecting gender gaps. Regarding the underlying causes of gender inequalities, these are reported for certain themes (particularly for political participation, employment, access to justice, gender-based violence) but they are not sufficiently explained for other axes (humanitarian intervention, reconciliation processes, health, food security).</p> <p><u>Result 2:</u></p> <p>A gender analysis of the majority of sectors, including the underlying causes of gender inequality and discrimination in line with SDGs' priorities, including SDG 5 are included. As such, information is available but not necessary translated into statistical data. An analysis of CEDAW commitments and gaps in translating the Convention in national legal framework, as well as the status of implementation of UNSCR 1325, are explicitly included in the CCA.</p> <p><u>Result 3:</u></p> <p>The CCA includes an analysis of most vulnerable groups: women and girls; IDPs; Youth; People with disabilities; Religious and ethnic minorities; LGBTQI; ISIL-affiliated individuals persons perceived to be affiliated with ISIL; Refugees; Individuals or persons at risk of statelessness.</p>	

Despite that the CCA misses sex-disaggregated data referred to certain thematic areas such as women refugees, IDPs, disabled and women and girls religious and ethnic minorities. Socio-cultural aspects which undermine the inclusion of women are partially included in each thematic area.

Result 4:

The CCA was informed by a 'Gender Profile for Iraq A situation analysis on gender equality and women's empowerment in Iraq' published in December 2018 by UN Women. UN Women will also lead on the elaboration of the Country Gender equality profile in 2020 to ensure gender analysis is reflected comprehensively across sectors in the next CCA or equivalent.

Means of verification:

Common Country Analysis (CCA) 2019: A new Transitioning Forwards to a New Iraq
Gender Profile for Iraq A situation analysis on gender equality and women's empowerment in Iraq (2018, UN Women and Oxfam)

Indicator: 1.2 UNDAF outcomes	Score: Meets Requirements
Results:	
<p><u>Baseline 2017:</u> meets minimum standards (UN-SWAP Comprehensive Report 2017 for Iraq) <u>Progress status 2019:</u> unvaried</p> <p>The United National Sustainable Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Iraq (2020-2024) is focused on four main strategic priorities covering the main priority development and peace-building areas for Iraq. 1. Achieving Social Cohesion, Protection and Inclusion. 2. Growing the economy for All. 3. Promoting Effective, Inclusive and Efficient Institutions and Services. 4. Promoting Natural Resources and Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Resilience.</p> <p><u>Results:</u> Three over four strategic priorities (namely strategic areas 1,2,3) are gender-and-age sensitive and/or gender-and-age specific, while strategic area 4 does not include gender equality and women's empowerment dimension.</p> <p>Gender equality is visibly integrated into three over four strategic areas, taking into account statements of results and narratives. All results are consistent with SDG 5 and other gender-related sustainable development goals, as evidenced by the UNSDCF 2020-2024 results matrix. The results of UNSDCF strategic areas 1,2 and 3 have clearly incorporated gender into their statements in an explicit way, while strategic area 4 does not include gender equality and women's empowerment dimension. Overall the integration of the gender dimension/gender equality is present in 75 percent of strategic priority areas by meeting minimum standards.</p> <p>Here are some examples where the issue of gender/gender equality is addressed in the Cooperation Framework:</p>	

1. Achieving Social Cohesion, Protection and Inclusion: Outcome 1.1 (policies), 1.2 (access to services) and 1.3 (participation). Those outcomes refer explicitly to ‘inclusive’ and ‘gender-responsive’ protection, social protection and social cohesion policies, services, systems and participation. Outcome 1.1 is explicitly focused on policies which serve “the most vulnerable populations, including women, youth and minorities”; Outcome 1.2 is intended to achieve “equitable and sustainable access to quality gender- and age-responsive protection and social protection systems and services”, while Outcome 1.3 has a “focus on women and youth leadership in decision-making, peace-building and reconciliation processes”.
2. Growing Economy for All: Outcome 2.1 (economic policies and legislation) and Outcome 2.2 (access to and engagement in economic activities). Both Outcomes have specific mention to ‘inclusive’ and ‘gender-sensitive’ policies and economic activities, with Outcome 2.1 intended to improve policies/legislation with “focus on increasing income security and decent work for women, youth and vulnerable populations”.
3. Promoting Effective, Inclusive and Efficient Institutions and Services: Outcome 3.1 (strengthened institutions and systems) and Outcome 3.2 (leadership and participation to the design/delivery of services) are gender specific. Outcome 3.1 has a ‘particular focus on advocating for women’s leadership in decision-making processes’ and Outcome 3.2 on “improving women’s capacity to lead, participate in and contribute to the design and delivery of equitable and responsive services”.

The existing UN Interagency Gender Task Force in Iraq supported the gender mainstreaming in the UNSDCF formulation process, under the coordination of UN Women, UNDP and UNAMI.

Means of verification: United National Sustainable Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Iraq (2020-2024)

Indicator: 1.3 UNDAF indicators	Score: Meets Requirements
Results:	
<u>Baseline 2017:</u> Meets minimum standards (UN-SWAP Comprehensive Report 2017 for Iraq) <u>Progress status 2019:</u> Unvaried	
<u>Results:</u> Out of the 22 outcome-level indicators, 14 are gender sensitive. Specifically, 8 aim (among other things) at measuring progress towards gender equality and women’s empowerment and 6 includes gender-and-age disaggregated data. Data from these indicators can be used to inform decision makers about gender disparities and influence policies and strategies for better responses to gender issues and for better planning and implementation.	

Total of Outcome indicators	22
Total of gender-sensitive indicators	14
Proportion	63%

More specifically, priority strategic area 1) 'Achieving Social Cohesion, Protection and Inclusion' and 2) 'Growing the economy for All' are gender-sensitive (6/6 and 4/4 indicators respectively). In relation to priority strategic area 3) 'Promoting Effective, Inclusive and Efficient Institutions and Services', 4 over 6 indicators are gender-sensitive, while referring to priority area 4) 'Promoting Natural Resources and Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Resilience' indicators are gender-blind.

	Priority Area 1	Priority Area 2	Priority Area 3	Priority Area 4	Total
Total indicators	6	4	6	6	22
Gender sensitive	6	4	4	0	14
Proportion	100%	100%	70%	0%	

Indicators at Output level has not yet been circulated by UNCT and cannot be assessed in this report.

In summary, UNDAF/CF indicators at Outcome levels are designed to measure changes in gender equality and use sex-disaggregated data. Moreover, those indicators include data disaggregation per age, disability and population group (including vulnerable women, IDPs, refugees, rural and urban areas, etc.).

Means of verification: United National Sustainable Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Iraq (2020-2024) Result Matrix

Dimension Area 2: Programming and M&E

Indicator: 2.1 Joint Programming	Score: Approaches Requirements
Results:	
<u>Baseline 2017:</u> Meets minimum standards (UN-SWAP Comprehensive Report 2017 for Iraq) <u>Progress status 2019:</u> decreased	
<u>Results:</u> The UN Interagency Gender Task Force organizes bi-annual data collection on GEWE programming in order to share information and to create synergies on joint programming development. Following the last gender programming mapping (for the period September – December 2019), evidence shows that UN Agencies are not involved in joint gender programming. Despite that, UN Women, UNMAS, UNDP, UNAMI, FAO, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT	

and IOM have been implementing programmes covering different gender thematic areas in 2019 and engaging governmental and no-governmental stakeholders.

In this light, it is important that UNCT and the GTF create common ground for joint programming to advance GEWE agenda in Iraq. GTF will organize a workshop on joint programming in 2020 to fill this gap. Moreover, in 2020 UN Women, UNDP and UNICEF are planning to apply to the Joint SDG fund (component 1 and 2).

Means of verification:

GTF Gender Programming mapping 2019

Indicator: 2.2 Communication and advocacy	Score: Meets Requirements
Results:	
<p><u>Baseline 2017:</u> Meets minimum standards (UN-SWAP Comprehensive Report 2017 for Iraq)</p> <p><u>Progress status 2019:</u> unvaried</p>	
<p><u>Results:</u></p> <p>UN system communication plan integrated gender equality which include the conferences and workshops during the 16 days against GBV as well as the activities organized for the International Women's Day. The UN Interagency Gender Task Force (GTF) has a specific strategic area focused on 'strengthening joint coordination and the development of advocacy briefs and messaging on gender equality and women's empowerment'. As part of this objective, the GTF coordinates joint events/messaging and press releases on: UNSCR 1325 Open Day; 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence; International Women's Day and International Day for the Elimination of CRSV. In 2019, 10 events and conferences were organized in synergy between the UN System and the High Council of Women's Affairs in KRI with mass media coverage and communication/visibility actions.</p> <p>Moreover, the UN Communications Group is interacting with/being present in the UNSCDF/CF process to ensure consistency, uniformity and accuracy of collective messages for effective advocacy, resource mobilization, and information sharing. Gender equality advocacy and communication interventions are part of the UN Communication Group efforts. Despite that, it is recommended for UNCT to develop and implement a Strategic Communications Group annual work plan for 2020 that visibly integrates gender-focused activities and messaging to strengthen joint gender advocacy beyond the International Days.</p>	
<p>Means of verification:</p> <p>GTF Work Plan (2019-2020)</p> <p>UNCT and UN Agencies press releases</p>	

Dimension Area 3: Partnerships

Indicator: 3.1 Engagement with government	Score: Exceed requirements
Results:	
<u>Baseline 2017:</u> exceeds minimum standards (UN-SWAP Comprehensive Report 2017 for Iraq) <u>Progress status 2019:</u> unvaried	
<u>Results:</u> <p>The UN System in Iraq coordinated work on gender equality with technical support to gender units in line ministries, to the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Women's Machinery and to Parliamentarians, among others. Particularly, UN Women is coordinating the drafting and validation of the second Iraq National Action Plan (2020-2024) for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. The process engaged 33 national institutions, namely 23 ministries and institutions in the federal government and 10 ministries in the Kurdistan Regional Government composing the Cross-Sector Task Force (CSTF) 1325. Moreover, UN Women coordinated the Beijing+25 Report for 2019 in collaboration with the federal and KRI governments. UNFPA is coordinating efforts with the Women's Machinery in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq for strengthening gender-related capacity building. Finally, the UN System (specifically UN Women, UNAMI, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR and UNDP) coordinated with the High Council of Women's Affairs a series of conferences and trainings for the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence in 2019 in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.</p> <p>UNDP works in collaboration with Women's Empowerment Department at COMSEC, the women committee in Council of Representatives and gender units in line ministries for the achievement of SDG 5. UN-HABITAT, in coordination with governmental organizations, particularly at the municipal level, advocates for supporting the rights of marginalized and vulnerable girls/women, with special attention to Female Heads of Households among IDPs and returnees. UNMAS engages with National Mine Action Authorities at all levels, to ensure that coordination among explosive hazard management GoI entities, strategies/policies/standard working procedures, technical trainings and workshops are all mainstreamed using a gender responsive approach. UNAMI engaged with political leaders at the Council of Representatives, KR Parliament, political parties' leaders to promote the gender, women, peace and security agenda; in particular, women's representation and participation.</p> <p>UNCT has engaged, throughout the UNSDCF process, cooperation and coordination with the Government. The development of the initial framework was heavily influenced by discussions with the Government of Iraq including the Kurdish government. UNSDCF includes collaboration with 16 governmental bodies/ commissions and 19 ministries at Federal level and 6 institutions in the KRI Government and specific actions are in place to strengthen capacity on GEWE with the Government and Women's Machinery in Iraq. In summary:</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The UN System has made more than one collective contribution within the current UNSDCF cycle to strengthen the capacities of the women's machinery. - The UN System has made more than one collective contribution within the current UNDAF cycle to strengthen the capacities of the Government to foster GEWE.
Means of verification: List of Coordinating Government Institutions (UNSDCF) Gender programming mapping (2019) – Gender Task Force

Indicator: 3.2 Engagement with women's/gender equality CSO	Score: Meets requirements
Results: <u>Baseline 2017:</u> approaches minimum standards <u>Progress status 2019:</u> improved <u>Results:</u> UNAMI inaugurated in 2019 the Women Advisory Group, (WAG) on Reconciliation and Politics in Iraq, in accordance with the mission's mandate to promote and advance inclusive political dialogue and reconciliation. Comprising 22 women, the WAG will serve as a political inclusion mechanism to ensure that voices, concerns and experiences of Iraqi women are included in political processes that shape the national reconciliation vision, based on the principles of peaceful coexistence, respect for diversity and non-discrimination. UN Women worked in collaboration and strengthen coordination between the government and civil society for the development process of the II INAP on 1325, particularly Alliance 1325 and 1325 Network composed by 43 women's associations and CSOs. Governmental and no-governmental stakeholders focused on developing a log frame, a M&E framework, conducting costing analysis, and developing a communication strategy for the second NAP on 1325. UN Women, under the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund, is working to advance the WPS commitments in Iraq engaging 30 women's association and local CBOs/CSOs. UNFPA is coordinating, through the GBV Sub Cluster, efforts for service providers to prevent and respond gender-based violence. Despite this achievement CSOs and women's organizations have not been extensively consulted in the CCA/UNSDCF processes.	
Means of verification: UNCT Confidential Report to CEDAW (2019)	

Dimension Area 4: Leadership and Organization Culture

Indicator: 4.1 Leadership	Score: Meets requirements
Results: <u>Baseline 2017:</u> approaches minimum standards <u>Progress status 2019:</u> improved	

Results:

- Gender equality is a regular agenda item, is meaningfully addressed for UNCT HOA and other high-level meetings. Gender is a regular agenda of the UNCT HOA (50% of UNCT meetings in 2019 had gender on the agenda). Furthermore, the Gender Unit of UNAMI sits in DRSG, SRSG and RCO meetings to ensure that gender remains prominent.
- UNCT Leadership is Committed to Championing Gender Equality – gender equality features as a regular item in other high-level meetings, and Resident Coordinator annual reporting includes progress made in gender mainstreaming and in achieving gender related results. RC/HC raises gender issue regularly in meetings with development partners and in communications on humanitarian issues. An analysis of the Resident Coordinator's speeches shows a sensitivity to issues of gender equality and women's rights, especially at international days specifically dedicated to topics (16 Days of activism against GBV). To achieve a public status as a champion of gender equality, the RC could address gender issues more regularly and cross-cuttingly in speeches that address different topics during the ongoing protests in Iraq to raise awareness among the public and policy makers about women's and girls' needs.
- RC Annual Report covers the main gender-related results. RC annual reporting includes progress made in gender mainstreaming. Resident Coordinator Annual Report cover genders related results.
- The Assessment of Results and Competencies of UNCT (ARC) in 2019 was not applied for Iraq.

Means of verification:

UNCT meeting minutes

Resident Coordinator Annual Report

RCO speeches and press releases

Dimension Area 5: Gender Architecture

Indicator: 5.1 Gender Coordination Mechanism	Score: Meets requirements
<u>Baseline 2017:</u> approaches minimum standards <u>Progress status:</u> improved	
Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gender Coordination Mechanism (membership and operations) is empowered to influence the UNCT and reports to UNCT for GEWE issues in Iraq. UNCT in Iraq has a Gender Thematic Group since 2016, namely UN Interagency Gender Task Force (GTF), chaired by UN Women and co-chaired by UNDP and UNAMI.- GTF includes participation from the majority of resident UN Agencies. There are 13 agencies in total participating in the GTF out of a total of 16 resident agencies in Iraq	

(and 4 non-resident agencies). UN Agencies members are: UN Women, UNAMI, UNDP, UNFPA, IOM, FAO, UN HABITAT, UNOPS, UNMAS, WHO, WFP, UNHCR and UNICEF.

- The UN Gender Task Force has a strong membership base with senior-level participation. The GTF is chaired by Gender Specialist/Policy Advisor (P3/P4 equivalent) in Baghdad and Erbil. GTF members include over 50% senior staff. Each agency participating in the GTF has a GFP and an alternate. Out of the 13 members, 9 are P4/NOC or equivalent and above.
- The GTF has Terms of Reference and bi-annual work plan (2019-2020) that can be consulted, with the designation of managers for each scheduled activity. The UNCT Iraq GTF does not have a budget for 2020. On July 2019 a Strategic Planning Meeting was organized to review strategic priorities with the aim to enhance collaboration, partnership and common messaging on GEWE and update the Work Plan.
- The GTG organizes fortnightly meetings on different topics and areas of work of its members in three strategic priority areas: 1) Knowledge sharing on gender equality and women empowerment in Iraq; 2) Gender responsive UN system planning, and 4) Joint advocacy and messaging on common thematic areas.
- GTF coordinated the drafting of the UNCT Confidential Report to CEDAW which was submitted to the CEDAW Committee in Geneva in 2019.
- The GTF did provide substantial contributions to UNSDCF, including the CCA, UNSDCF strategic prioritization, the results framework and M&E. Particularly, UN Women, through the Gender Task Force, nominated two GTF Gender Focal Points (GFPs) who mainstreamed gender at Output/Outcome/Indicator levels in the UNSDCF. GTF reviewed all documents for gender responsiveness and provided gender technical advisory support in all stages of UNSDCF processes. This contribution is formalized in the GTF Strategic planning note and bi-annual work plan (2019-2020). At the same time, the work of the GTF is formalized in the UNSDCF.
- GTF members include representatives from various clusters; as well as cross cutting groups (CSRV/MARA working group, GBV Sub-Cluster, PSEA Network). Members of the GTF are also members of other clusters as well as cross-cutting groups. Synergies were created between the GTF and the GBV Sub Cluster and CSRV/MARA working group.
- GTF does not involve external stakeholders yet. While the GTF has not involved external stakeholders, discussions are underway to identify best mechanism and target groups (e.g. Government, CSO...).

Means of verification:

GTF strategic planning note 2019
GTF Work Plan 2019-2020
GTF meeting minutes

Indicator: 5.1 Capacities for gender mainstreaming	Score: Approaches requirements
Results:	
<u>Baseline 2017:</u> approaches minimum standards	

Progress status 2019: unvaried

Results:

A capacity development plan for gender mainstreaming was not undertaken over the UNSDCF cycle.

- a) There is no capacity development plan based on the capacity assessment.
- b) No targets are set for gender capacity development plan.
- c) UN Iraq does not have an induction package for staff, each agency has its own mechanism and procedures in place.

In 2019, the GTF undertook a capacity building session on gender-responsive policies and legislation. The GTF has planned to undertake capacity building sessions for GTF members in 2020 (according to the WP 2019-2020) to strengthen capacity on gender analysis, gender mainstreaming and gender-responsive policies and legislation along with seeking synergies for joint programming. It is recommended that UNCT develop and implement a Gender Capacity Development Plan, incorporating related actions into relevant annual work plans.

Means of verification:

No evidence was found of joint capacity development assessments or plans at UNCT level. GTF Work Plan (2019-2020).

Dimension Area 6: Resources

Indicator: 6.1 Financial Resources	Score: Missing requirements
Results:	
<u>Baseline 2017:</u> missing requirements <u>Progress status 2019:</u> unvaried	
<u>Results:</u> UNCT Iraq has not, at present, established or achieved a financial target for the allocation of programme resources for gender equality and women's empowerment. UNCT did not show any evidence of means of tracking and utilizing gender-specific budgetary data, although the RCO is preparing a tool to track budgetary data against SDGs, and this may offer some indication against SDG5 targeted initiatives. Despite that, UNDCF Joint Work Plans (which includes budgeting per programme) for each of the four strategic priority areas can be useful to track the budgetary allocation of UNCT for gender equality and women's empowerment programming.	
Means of verification: No evidence of utilization of data in UNCT reports	