



IRAQ HUMANITARIAN FUND

2022

ANNUAL REPORT

THE IHF THANKS OUR DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT IN 2022

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This document was produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Iraq. OCHA Iraq wishes to acknowledge the contributions of its committed staff at headquarters and in the field in preparing this document.

The latest version of this document is available on the IHF website at www.unocha.org/iraq/about-ihf.

Full project details, financial updates, real-time allocation data and indicator achievements against targets are available at CBPF DataHub.

About IHF

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Front Cover:

Hatra, Ninewa. A man working in his new workshop opened with cash assistance.
Credit: PIN

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FOREWORD

I am pleased to share with you the 2022 Iraq Humanitarian Fund Annual Report. The report demonstrates how the Fund was strategically used to address the priority needs of Iraqis who continued to suffer from the effects of the 2014-2017 conflict during 2022. It further highlights the added value of the Fund in strengthening humanitarian coordination, as well as the continuous work by the IHF Advisory Board and OCHA to enhance the Fund's performance during a time of transition for the overall humanitarian response.

2022 was a decisive year for the IHF as it represented the culmination of discussions that had been ongoing since 2019 on the Fund's future and that of the international humanitarian system in Iraq.

The conditions that required the mobilization of a full-scale international humanitarian response in 2014 have significantly decreased with the progressive recovery of government capacity over the past two years. The international humanitarian response began to transition in 2022 to pave way for more durable and development-oriented action while continuing the commitment to support the Government of Iraq (GoI) and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), to respond to the remaining critical residual humanitarian needs during 2023.

Through its final US\$8.4 million allocation in 2022, the Fund strategically focussed on supporting humanitarian response to people showing the highest level of vulnerability. Leveraging the Fund's comparative advantage of timeliness and flexibility, and its wide network of partners, the allocation aimed to help address the core drivers

of vulnerability through high impact short-term interventions. Accordingly, IHF targeted 151,000 internally displaced people and returnees with cash assistance to enhance dignity and flexibility, and through improving access to basic services such as water and sanitation, and addressing protection related concerns that particularly affected children.

To maximize its support to Iraqi national organizations, IHF stipulated that projects include capacity strengthening components for national partners, and encouraged national NGOs to submit proposals directly or as sub-partners of consortium projects. This resulted in a net funding of US\$3.3 million (38 per cent) transferred to national partners.

As the drawdown of the IHF continues into 2023, I would like to appreciate the commitment of donors who steadfastly supported the Fund from its inception seven years ago. Their generous contributions enabled IHF become one of the most effective funding mechanisms in Iraq, consistently supporting humanitarian response while strengthening Iraqi organizations' ability to respond effectively.

I am grateful to the invaluable contributions made by the Advisory Board, clusters, and partners in ensuring that the Fund fulfilled its mandate to strengthen coordination and support humanitarian response to those Iraqis who most need support.



Ghulam M. Isaczai
Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq



“

Leveraging its comparative advantage of timeliness, flexibility and wide network of partners enabled IHF become one of the most effective mechanisms supporting timely humanitarian response in Iraq.

GHULAM M. ISACZAI
HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR FOR IRAQ

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2022 in Review

HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN

The 2022 HRP sought \$400 million to provide lifesaving and life-sustaining assistance across Iraq. The appeal covered requirements across nine clusters to meet critical humanitarian needs among 991,000 acutely vulnerable Iraqis.



2.5M
PEOPLE IN NEED



991K
PEOPLE TARGETED



\$400M
FUNDING REQUIREMENT

[Link to Iraq HRP](#)

[Link to Iraq HNO](#)

Humanitarian situation in 2022

Five years after a large-scale military operation against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the humanitarian situation in Iraq has improved considerably. The number of people who require humanitarian assistance, because of this conflict, had declined from 11 million people in 2017 to 2.5 million in 2022. These included 1.7 million returnees, 180,000 internally displaced people living in camps and 550,000 people living outside camps.

Residual humanitarian needs

Despite the significant progress made in humanitarian response, about 991,000 people still faced multiple vulnerabilities, underscoring a high need for assistance to survive. The barriers to their ability to attain stability in their lives were closely interlinked. Chief among these were poor and insecure living conditions that increased their vulnerability to protection violations, a lack of critical civil documentation that adversely affected their access to essential government services, and challenges in meeting their basic needs because of limited livelihood opportunities that led to reliance on harmful coping mechanisms. Of particular concern were female-headed households, people with disability, and children.

Given the accelerated efforts towards durable solutions, and conscious that many of the remaining challenges required long-term structural solutions beyond the humanitarian response, the humanitarian community in Iraq revised its approach to needs analysis for the 2022 Iraq Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) to better identify the people most in need.

The 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) aimed to reach 991,000 people, to be supported by humanitarian programming with a total funding requirement of \$400 million. Under the HRP Strategic Objectives, humanitarian agencies aimed to provide 180,000 displaced people in camps, 234,000 living in out-of-camp areas, and 577,000 returnees with assistance to: (i) live in safety and dignity; (ii) access essential services; and (iii) meet their basic needs.

Transition overview

Between late 2021 and early 2022, the Iraq Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) began discussions to prepare for the transition from a humanitarian-only response plan to a development-focused approach, as this would better serve the needs of all citizens in Iraq, and not just those affected by the ISIL crisis.

With the deactivation of the cluster system in Iraq by 31 December 2022, the HCT decided not to develop an HRP for 2023. However, in an effort to ensure continuity of support to the Government of Iraq (GoI), and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), to respond to the remaining humanitarian needs during 2023, the Iraq Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) agreed to develop a Humanitarian Transition Overview (HTO). The overview describes the critical residual humanitarian needs that the government and development partners are not in a position to fully cover in 2023, defines the HCT's priorities for programming and fundraising, and helps donors and agencies prioritize humanitarian support in 2023.

Fund closure

In December 2021, the IHF Advisory Board established milestones to determine the future of the Fund, specifically regarding its closure, guided by closure procedures in the CBPF Global Guidelines. In April 2022, following its review of the Fund's viability by considering the significantly reduced humanitarian needs and the system wide transition of the humanitarian architecture in Iraq, along with the minimal funding received in the first quarter of 2022, the Board proposed to begin the closure process for the IHF after 30 June 2022.

The Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) endorsed the Fund's closure, in alignment with the Advisory Board's recommendation, paving the way for implementing the exit strategy. The Fund closed for contributions by the end of June and launched its final allocation in July 2022. To ensure a timely, administrative, financial, and programmatic closure, funded projects were limited to an eight-month

implementation period. In addition, OCHA took stock of all its open projects to assess their status in the project cycle and set out a work plan to ensure their full closure by the end of 2023.

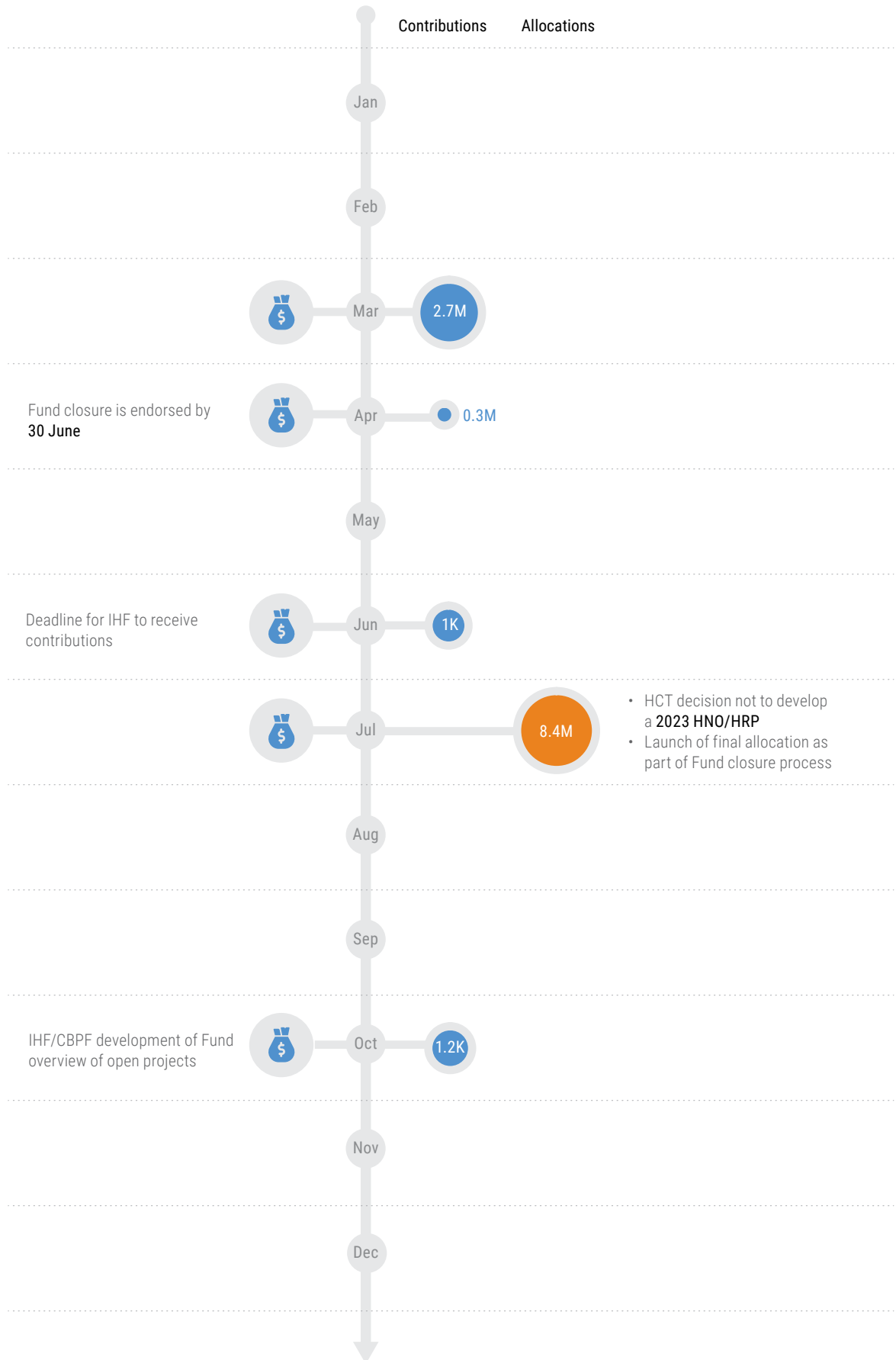
As part of the first step, OCHA conducted a stakeholder review of the Fund's practices and lessons observed since its inception in 2015. The exercise reviewed the Funds' processes, engagement and performance against each of the CBPF operating principles (inclusiveness, flexibility, timeliness, efficiency, and risk management) as well as its mandate and objectives. The results from this exercise will be included in the Fund's closure report.



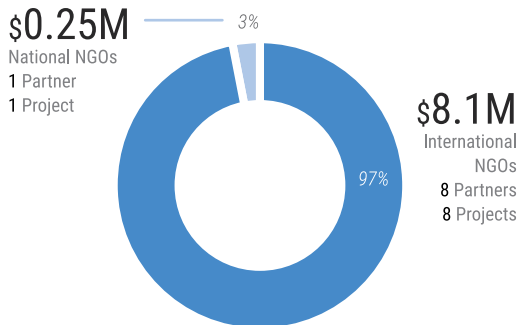
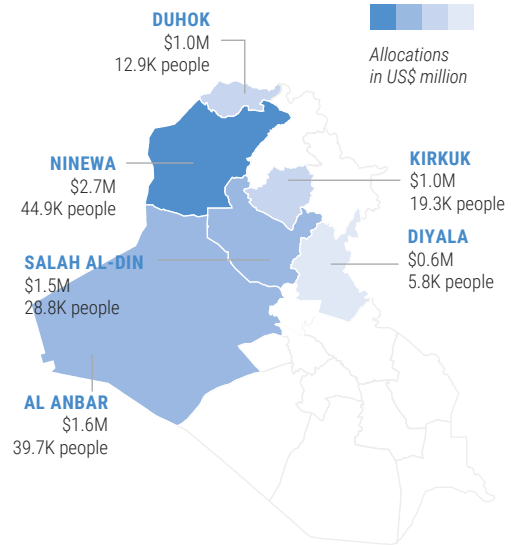
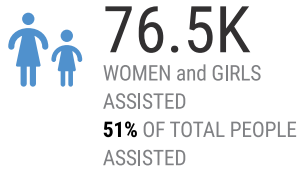
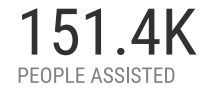
Mosul, Ninewa. A child being examined by medical staff of mobile clinic service.

Credit: DARY

2022 TIMELINE



2022 IN NUMBERS

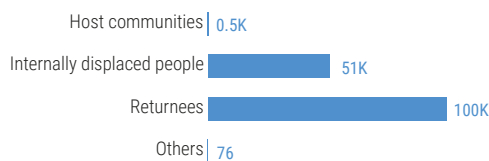


* The Annual Report uses the number of people targeted as a proxy for the number of people reached and henceforth the term people assisted will be used. This approach allows for more timely global reporting as the final data on people reached only becomes available over a year after the allocation of CBPF funds. The reported outcomes will be available on the <https://cbpf.data.unocha.org/> the CBPFs will continuously monitor if targets are reached.

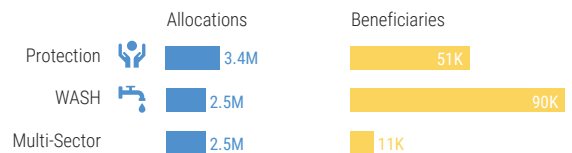
** Figures for people assisted may include double counting as individuals often receive aid from multiple cluster/sectors. The maximum methodology was applied by the Iraq Humanitarian Fund to estimate the number of people assisted in 2022. The total number of people assisted is thus the sum of the maximum number of targeted beneficiaries by gender and age per cluster/sectors and location at admin level 1.

* Funds provided to humanitarian organizations as a primary recipient and excluding sub-grants arrangements. To see sub-grants included please see page 15.

PEOPLE ASSISTED BY TYPE in thousands of people



ALLOCATIONS AND PEOPLE ASSISTED BY CLUSTER



■ Standard allocations

Allocations in US\$ million, people assisted in millions of people

Donor contributions

Donor contributions to IHF in 2022 were only US\$ 3.1 million, compared with contributions received in 2021 and 2020 of \$23.6 million and \$25 million, respectively. Together with a carry-over of \$ 8.1 million, that included end of the year contribution from the United Kingdom, the Fund had an income of \$11.2 million. Importantly, it allowed the Board to reserve funding to retain staff to manage the Fund's closure in 2023.

The reduced number of donors from ten in 2020 to six in 2022, and the low inflows reflect an overall drop in funding to the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

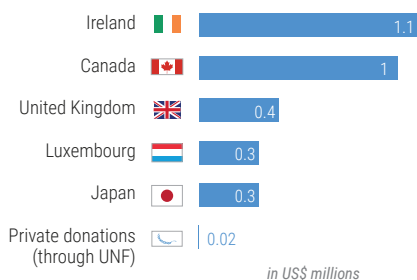
By June 2022, funding for the HRP was at a historic low of 15 per cent of its \$400 million requirement although this increased to 67 per cent by end of December. By the end of 2022, IHF contribution was just one per cent of HRP receipts of \$387 million of the 2021 HRP requirement of \$607 million.

While the total income of the Fund in 2022 was suboptimal, the Fund succeeded in providing some critical support to out-of-camp displaced people and returnees by offering continuity in humanitarian services in prioritized underserved areas that hosted groups whose needs had hitherto not been adequately addressed.

DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS



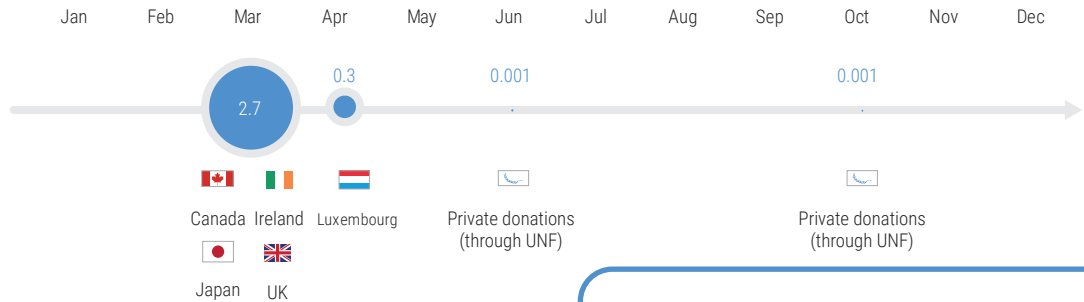
\$3.1M
CONTRIBUTIONS



DONOR MULTI-YEAR FUNDING

 United Kingdom **\$23.5M** 2019 - 2022

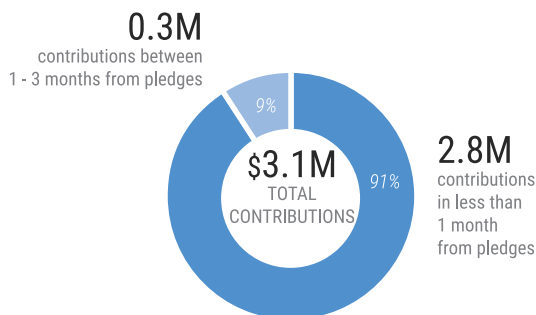
CONTRIBUTIONS TIMELINE



Donor trend

In response to the Advisory Board’s December 2021 decision to review the future of the Fund at the end of the first quarter of 2023, four donors deposited \$2.7 million in contributions. An additional \$0.3 million contribution was received in April. While Canada, Ireland, Luxembourg, and United Kingdom were consistent supporters of the Fund, Japan’s support was welcomed for the second consecutive year. UK’s contribution also constituted a top up of its last instalment of its three-year (2019-2022) multiyear funding to the Fund, with its largest contribution being in 2021. It is notable that Canada and Ireland maintained their \$1million contributions to the Fund from 2020 to 2022. Apart from \$1,000 in private donations, no additional funding was received by the 30 June deadline set by the Board for contributions. The contributions were a fifth of the Board’s target of \$17 million that would have been used to make a meaningful allocation and pay for the Fund’s overheads.

TIMELINESS OF CONTRIBUTIONS



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TIMELY CONTRIBUTIONS

Pledging and payment of contributions to CBPFs are timely and predictable.

Target

Two thirds of annual contributions committed and paid before the end of the first half of the year.

Results and analysis

All donor contributions to the Fund were received in the first half of 2022. Regrettably, the receipts were a fifth of the targeted income of \$17 million that had been requested to make a meaningful contribution to the humanitarian response and meet the Fund’s 2023 overhead costs. Despite the request to receive final contributions by 30 June , no further funding was received.

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EFFICIENT SCALE

CBPFs have a significant funding level to support the delivery of the HRPs.

Target

15 per cent of HRP funding channelled through the Fund.

Results and analysis

With contributions of only \$3.1 million, IHF achieved only 5 per cent of the recommended 15 percent (\$57.2 million) contribution to the HRP. It also constituted only one per cent of the \$387 million receipts to the 2021 HRP. This reflected declining donor inflows into the Fund over the previous three years, and the low contributions to the HRP overall from 10 per cent in 2018 to a steady 4 percent in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

[All CPF list and descriptions](#)

Allocations overview

STRATEGIC STATEMENTS

Standard Allocation: Addressing severe humanitarian needs of out of camp IDPs and returnees

Recognizing the humanitarian needs among acutely vulnerable Iraqis, the final allocation of the IHF supported internally displaced people living outside camps and returnees. The allocation focused on three critical areas: (i) immediate income sources to meet basic needs and reduce reliance on negative coping strategies; (ii) specialized protection services; and (iii) water and sanitation services to address life-threatening needs.

Leveraging the Fund's flexibility, and its wide network of partners, the allocation addressed the core drivers of vulnerability through high-impact, short-term interventions. To optimize the limited funding available, the allocation targeted nine districts with significant response gaps and the highest numbers of people in need. The tight sectoral and geographic focus complemented ongoing initiatives and activities planned by other donors and international agencies.

The allocation supported the continued pursuit of the Fund's commitment to localization, through promoting participation and capacity-strengthening of national partners, as well as other cross-cutting priorities including gender and age

considerations, disability inclusion, protection mainstreaming, and accountability in all partner programming.

Reflection on implementation

The provision of multisectoral responses to people facing extreme and catastrophic levels of humanitarian needs helped address the barriers to their ability to attain stability in their lives. The focus on underserved areas embodied the inclusiveness of the Fund.

2022 ALLOCATION

Amount	Category	Launch month
\$8.4M	Standard allocation	July

8

FLEXIBLE ALLOCATION PROCESS

CBPF funding supports strategic planning and response to needs identified in the HRP and sudden onset emergencies through the most appropriate modalities.

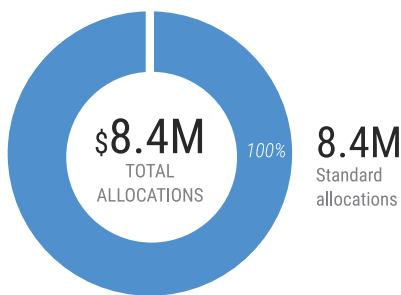
Target

At least 70 per cent of the total funds are allocated through Standard Allocation(s) and between 10 per cent and 30 per cent of the available funds are kept for Reserve Allocation(s) to respond to changes in the humanitarian context.

Results and Analysis

In view of the decision to close the Fund, IHF used all money available to conduct its final Standard Allocation of \$8.4 million. Moreover, the funding received precluded holding more than one allocation. No requests for a Reserve Allocation were received. The allocation strategically focused on supporting priorities outlined in the 2022 HRP that addressed critical humanitarian needs of acutely vulnerable out of camp IDPs and returnees.

ALLOCATION BY TYPE in US\$ million



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EFFICIENT COVERAGE

CBPF funding effectively assisted people in need.

Target

IHF collectively prioritized life-saving humanitarian needs and assisted identified as most vulnerable and at risk.

Results and Analysis

The HC and IHF Advisory Board decided to use this last IHF allocation to fund priority actions that would provide multi-sectoral humanitarian support to out-of-camp IDPs and returnees classified as having 'extreme' and 'catastrophic' levels of humanitarian needs in nine underserved districts in Iraq.

[All CPF list and descriptions](#)

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EFFICIENT PRIORITIZATION

CBPF funding is prioritized in alignment with the HRP.

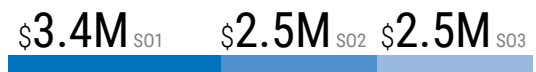
Target

All funded projects address HRP strategic priorities.

Results and Analysis

The allocation strategy was responsive to the 2022 HRP objectives by specifically targeting the drivers of acute vulnerability such as reliance on negative coping strategies to meet basic needs; protection -related risks, and inadequate access to basic services. These were addressed through the prioritization of three clusters namely Multipurpose Cash Assistance, Protection and WASH. Projects approved for funding all demonstrated activities that aligned to planned activities by cluster response plans.

ALLOCATION BY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE in US\$ million

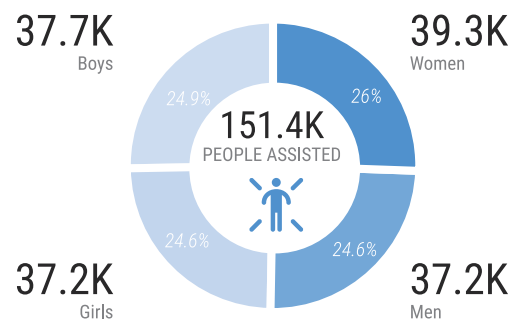


S01 Vulnerable IDPs in camps, acutely vulnerable out-of-camp IDPs and returnees are supported to live in safety and dignity.

S02 Vulnerable IDPs in camps, acutely vulnerable out-of-camp IDPs and returnees are supported to access essential services.

S03 Vulnerable IDPs in camps, acutely vulnerable out-of-camp IDPs and returnees are able to meet basic needs.

PEOPLE ASSISTED



16

EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT

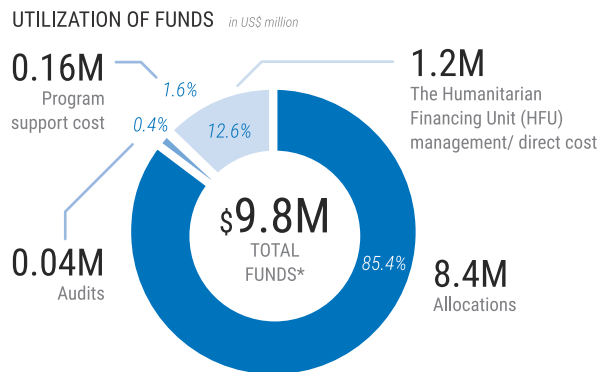
CBPF management is cost-efficient and context-appropriate.

Target

The Humanitarian Financing Unit (HFU) operations cost (cost-plan) accounts for less than 5 per cent of overall utilization of funds (allocations + operations costs).

Results and Analysis

In 2022, the HFU operations cost was \$1.2 million and the total expenditure was \$US9.8 million. The HFU cost constituted 12 per cent of the total funds utilized, surpassing the targeted 4 per cent due to the reduced amount of contributions received that led to proportionately higher costs. It should also be noted that the IHF Advisory Board reserved \$1 million out of 2022 inflows to cater for 2023 HFU costs in its closing year. This would ensure adequate capacity to fully manage the administrative, financial, and programmatic closure of all open projects. In addition, the expenditures exclude third party monitoring costs and audit costs for projects audited in the latter part of the year into 2023.



*Total fund excludes 1M set aside for HFU staff costs in 2023.

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EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT

CBPF management is compliant with management and operational standards required by the CBPF Global Guidelines.

Target

Operational Manual is updated based on the latest version of Global CBPF Guidelines by the end Q1. Annual report and allocation papers fully compliant with global guidance documents.

Results and Analysis

The Operational Manual was updated in 2021 and used for projects funded in 2022 as the revision of the global Guidelines had not been finalized. The Annual Report and allocation paper were however drafted in line with issued global guidelines guidance and reviewed by the CBPF section before publication.

10

TIMELY ALLOCATION

CBPFs allocation processes have an appropriate duration.

Target

Standard Allocation projects are processed (from the submission deadline to the HC signature) within 30 days on average. Reserve Allocation projects are processed (from the submission deadline to the HC signature) within 20 days on average.

Results and Analysis

IHF only conducted one allocation in 2022 because of the decision to close the Fund with final contributions to be received by 30 June 2022. The inclusion of two new projects to replace others that did not receive HC approval led to an extension of the average duration between proposal submission to HC to 38 days. Other delays were due to multiple revision rounds and/or partners taking too long to respond to comments.

Milestones: From allocation closing date to HC signature of the grant agreement

Category	2020	2021	2022
Standard Allocation	31	44	38
Reserve Allocations	22	33	n/a

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TIMELY DISBURSEMENTS

Payments are processed without delay

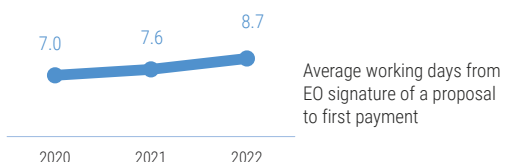
Target

10 days from Executive Officer signature of a proposal to first payment.

Results and Analysis

The average number of days between EO signature to disbursement at 9 days was well within the expected time for a Standard Allocation.

AVERAGE WORKING DAYS OF ALLOCATION PROCESSING



[All CPF list and descriptions](#)

PROMOTING LOCALIZATION



While addressing life-saving humanitarian needs is the primary goal of CBPFs, IHF recognizes localization as a secondary aim. As such, the Iraq HF committed to fund national partners as directly as possible and, where feasible, contribute to strengthening the performance and ability of Iraqi NGOs to expand opportunities to access funding and improve the assistance delivered.

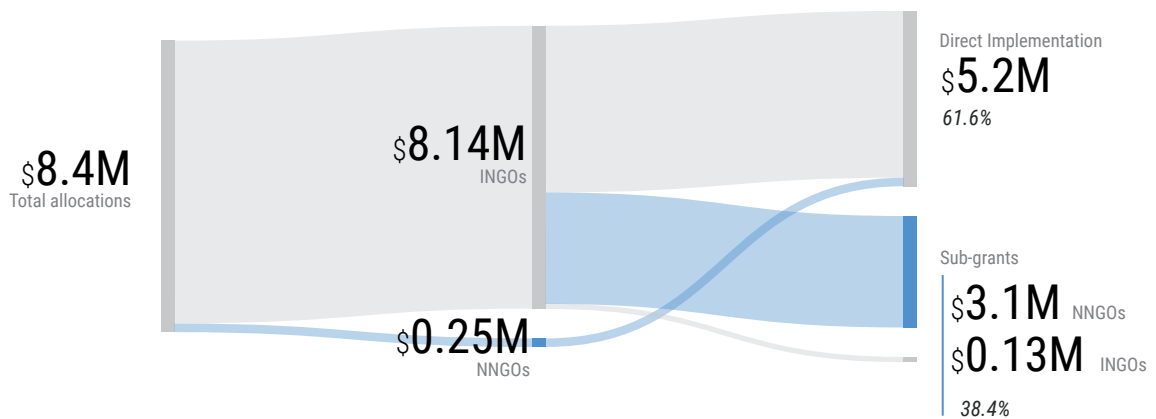
In 2022, IHF continued its commitment to promote localization by striving to channel at least 25 per cent of funding (if, when and where feasible) directly or indirectly through NGO consortia. Thus, the net funding channelled to national partners increased to 38 per cent from 33 per cent in 2021. Of note is the direct funding as a standalone project to a national partner that had established itself as having technical and operational skills to implement protection projects. To further promote localisation, subimplementing partner membership under consortia membership was limited to NNGOs.

The Board’s decision to close the Fund provided impetus to further streamline capacity-strengthening of Iraqi partners as it recognized that their

effective management of projects depended on them having both the technical capacity to implement as well as a functioning internal control system. Thus, this last allocation prioritized increased focus on improving institutional/internal controls of NNGOs particularly in financial and risk management. Accordingly, proposals submitted by lead partners articulated their capacity-strengthening plans in the log frame with clear outputs, specific activities with time bound and measurable indicators, and included a reasonable budget. To facilitate internal operations of national partners, proposals were reviewed to consider a fair share of budget and program support costs (PSC) among consortium partners based on their operational coverage.

Further, bilateral kick-off meetings were held a month after fund disbursement to reinforce implementation milestones such as regular monitoring of sub-implementing partners, and to track progress of capacity-strengthening outputs. This was particularly important as project duration was limited to seven or eight months to allow timely administrative financial and programmatic closure by the end of 2023.

ALLOCATION FLOW BY PARTNER TYPE *in US\$ million*





Location Salah Al-Din. IHF staff conducting awareness session on complaint and feedback mechanism.
Credit: OCHA/H.Stauffer

1 INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE

The Advisory Board has a manageable size and a balanced representation of CBPF stakeholders.

Target

14 members excluding the HC (Chair) and OCHA, with equal representation among UN, NGO (including both INGO and NNGO) and donor constituencies.

Results and Analysis

The IHF Advisory Board has 14 members and is representative of all stakeholders. It comprises four UN agencies, two INGOs, two NNGOs, three donors, and two donor observers and the representative from the NGO coordination body.

2 INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING

The review committees of the Fund have the appropriate size and a balanced representation of different partner constituencies and cluster representatives

Target

A diverse and balanced representation among UN agencies, INGOs and NNGOs, and HFU participation are maintained in review of project proposals.

Results and Analysis

The committees for the three funded clusters had largely equitable representation with representation from UN agencies, national and international NGOs. Importantly, each review committee had a gender focal point to ensure that gender was mainstreamed in all proposals.

3 INCLUSIVE IMPLEMENTATION

CBPF funding is allocated to the best-positioned actors, leveraging the diversity and comparative advantage of eligible organizations.

Target

Leveraging the comparative advantage of the best placed actors by diversifying the allocations when possible and ensuring that clusters vet project proposals.

Results and Analysis

While INGOs received the bulk of funding (97 percent), almost a third of this was further channelled to national partners either through partnerships or consortia. Consequently, NNGOs received 38 per cent of net funding. Only projects submitted by partners with demonstrated operational presence/access and capacity to absorb the allocated funds and implement projects in targeted locations were recommended for strategic review. For this, partners should have reported their activities on the Activity Info platform in 2021 and/or 2022 or should have consulted relevant clusters before submitting a proposal under the allocation.

[All CPF list and descriptions](#)



1
TRAINING



18
NATIONAL NGOS
(NNGOS) TRAINED



181
TOTAL PEOPLE
TRAINED FROM
NNGOS



2
WOMEN LED NGOS
TRAINED

4

INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT

Resources are invested by OCHA's Humanitarian Financing Unit (HFU) in supporting the capacity of local and national NGO partners within the scope of CBPF strategic objectives.

Target

At least two training rounds and briefings (with multiple sessions and locations) for partners to ensure understanding of CBPF process and procedures and improve their management and implementation of IHF projects.

Results and Analysis

In 2022, the IHF channelled a net funding of \$3.1 million out of \$8.4 million (38 per cent of the allocation) to NNGOs, mainly through multi-NGO consortia and partnerships funded under the Standard Allocation. HFU conducted the allocation-specific training targeting all partners before proposal submission. The topics covered provided guidance for proposal submission with emphasis on cross cutting themes such as gender and protection mainstreaming, AAP, localization, Protection against Sexual Abuse and Exploitation and Abuse, and gave budget and programmatic guidance.

Although the Fund conducted only one partner-specific training, bilateral consultations were enhanced through monitoring missions and kick-off meetings prior to implementation for funded partners. 18 NNGOs, two of which were national women-led organizations, participated in the training.

5

INCLUSIVE RESPONSE

CBPF funded projects have a clear strategy to promote the participation of affected people.

Target

All IHF-funded projects ensure accountability to affected populations (AAP) as part of the implementation. All monitoring instances include beneficiary consultations to assess community engagement in project implementation.

Results and Analysis

All IHF-funded projects were required to include a plan to ensure AAP as a project component and report against it. Of the nine projects for which new grants were signed through 2022 allocations included the provision of accessible and functional feedback and/or complaint mechanisms for beneficiaries. All field monitoring visits (including those conducted by third-party monitors) included beneficiary consultations to assess community engagement in project implementation.

[All CPF list and descriptions](#)

EFFECTIVE PROGRAMMING

INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING

Strengthening Accountability to Affected People

While IHF did not allocate funding specifically to accountability to affected populations (AAP) in 2022, the HFU continued to impress its importance to partners during implementation of all funded projects. While all proposals recommended for funding outlined how projects would ensure its implementation, it continued to feature AAP as a measure of performance during monitoring through focus group discussions with people in need, their representatives in committees, and counterpart officials. Lead partners were encouraged to reinforce AAP implementation by their sub-implementing partners. Community members were encouraged to use available complaint and feedback mechanisms, and it was incumbent for

IHF-funded partners to ensure that information regarding available channels were in Arabic and the local language and complaint boxes were easily accessible.

The Fund's approach in its multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) projects was in line with the Iraq Cash Working Group's advocacy for community engagement through encouraging participation in community committees in programmes that included cash assistance among their activities wherever possible. This was demonstrated through the establishment of community-based committees, and the use of locally based enumerators during surveys to select people to be targeted.



\$8.1M

OF PROJECT
FUNDED BY CBPFS
CONTRIBUTED TO
GENDER EQUALITY

Promoting the centrality of protection

As was usual practice, the strategic review committees ensured proposals demonstrated that their proposed activities were in line with cluster response plans towards protection mainstreaming. For example, people selected to receive MPCA were issued with digital wallets to secure their entitlements to safeguard women, the elderly, and people with disabilities or chronic diseases against insecurity. Similarly, rehabilitated sanitation facilities under the WASH projects were equipped with internally lockable doors, and handrails and ramps for persons with disabilities.

Addressing Gender Equality and responding to Gender Based Violence (GBV)

Unlike previous allocations that funded GBV activities, in line with the 2022 HRP mid-year needs analysis and already available funding and ongoing initiatives, IHF supported general protection and child protection substantively with the highest funding of \$3.5 million. Nevertheless, the Protection Cluster indirectly included GBV as its objective was to ensure that targeted people had access to specialized protection services and community-based interventions to address risks to their physical safety, well-being, and social integration. Key activities included case management, the availability of psychosocial support and referrals to specialized services particularly for people at risk including persons with disabilities, and victims and survivors of abuse including women, teenagers and children. To further encourage community participation in protection, all protection projects included community awareness and monitoring sessions on protection-related issues.

To provide assurances to female survivors of abuse and those at risk of protection violations, all protection projects have female staff as the primary points of contact throughout case management. This was to respect the cultural norms of the communities they work in with clearly defined rules of interaction between males and females.

Whereas the IHF acknowledges that Women-led Organizations (WLO)/ Women's Rights Organizations (WRO) can be the best placed actors to play critical, important roles in crisis response, the largely patriarchal Iraqi society limits women's ability to attract funding. However, as part of addressing gender equality, IHF trained two WLOs/ WROs in 2022 as part of its partner training.

Including Persons with Disabilities

While IHF did not specifically assign funds targeting persons with disabilities (PwD) in 2022, it promoted their inclusion throughout the project cycle to ensure they were not excluded from services. This was demonstrated through specific inclusion in the scorecards during proposal review through to specific queries during field monitoring visits. Consequently, IHF projects supported 4,760 persons with disability and strengthened disability inclusion in all phases of the allocation cycle. One WASH project spent \$39K to build 10 latrines specifically for PwD as part of its sanitation rehabilitation.

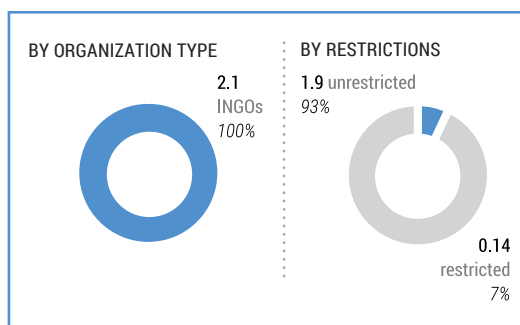
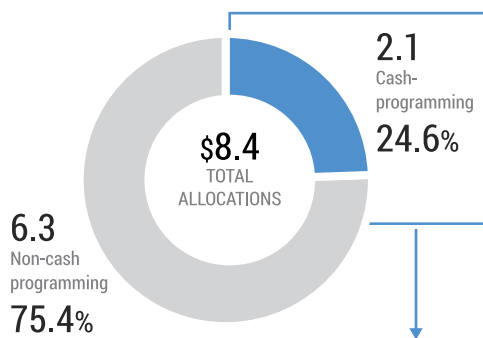
OTHER AREAS OF EFFECTIVE PROGRAMMING

Advancing Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

The provision of cash assistance has been an important tool in supporting households meet their basic needs. In 2022, the Iraq Cash Working Group (CWG) whose task is to coordinate humanitarian cash assistance, prioritized working with clusters to include gender considerations when designing cash and voucher assistance. Its objective was to reduce the risk of doing harm and to better include women and girls in programmes through using gender analysis in communities where cash assistance is provided.

The most common cash assistance approach in Iraq has been the use of multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to provide households with flexibility to make decisions about their priority needs. IHF has consistently supported the use of MPCA allocating \$31.9 million since 2016. In 2022, the Fund allocated \$2.5 million to help 1,990 households (11,940 people) in need to meet their basic needs

CASH TRANSFER PROGRAMMING



6

FLEXIBLE ASSISTANCE

CBPF funding for in-kind and in-cash assistance is appropriated.

Target

Cash as a response modality is operationally considered and strategically prioritized by clusters and partners, where appropriate.

Results and Analysis

High Score: \$2.1 million allocated through cash modalities, of which \$142K was restricted cash assistance.

7

FLEXIBLE OPERATION

CBPF Funding supports projects that improve the common ability of actors to deliver a more effective response.

Target

CBPF funding supports an enabling operational environment through funding allocated to common services.

Results and Analysis

Given the tight strategic focus of the allocation to address humanitarian needs that remained critical, no funding was allotted to common services.

[All CPF list and descriptions](#)

and minimize reliance on negative coping strategies. Projects funded under the Protection Cluster provided almost \$300,000 as unconditional cash assistance to support extremely vulnerable families and children to meet emergency basic needs as part of case management activities alongside psychosocial support.

Improving humanitarian access

IHF leveraged its wide network of partners to ensure coverage of areas and targeted beneficiaries identified by the allocation’s strategic focus. The requirement for the use of national partners already present and operational in the areas that had hitherto received inadequate humanitarian assistance despite the extreme vulnerability, notably boosted access. It is important to note however, that presence alone without capacity to implement was not a sufficient condition to access funding. OCHA’s field offices provided invaluable information to triangulate operational presence of partners. Two projects funded were a continuation of the previous allocation to areas where access had been limited. The new funding maintained access to these areas (Al-Baaj, Al-Hatra and Tooz Khurmatoo).

Enhancing Complementarity with other Funding Streams

The HFU considered the availability of other funding sources in targeting locations under its last allocation. Given the transitioning environment, the allocation sought to complement already ongoing and planned initiatives by the government and other actors towards durable solutions and other longer-term needs, such as the provision of civil documentation and critical shelter support. Furthermore, the allocation complemented the previous 2021 Reserve Allocation, which targeted some of the districts prioritized under this allocation. Funded clusters and partners were expected to ensure synergies between ongoing and new IHF-funded projects to avoid overlaps in assistance and maximize their collective impact.

9

FLEXIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

CBPFs allocation processes have an appropriate duration.

Target

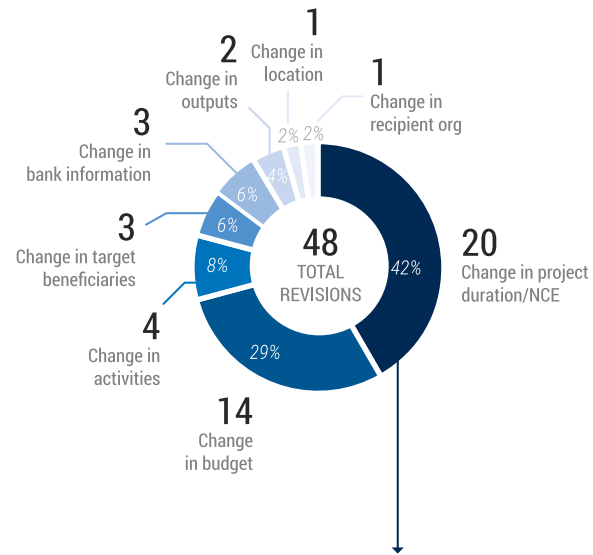
Project revision requests are processed to respond to shifting/ emerging operational needs.

Results and Analysis

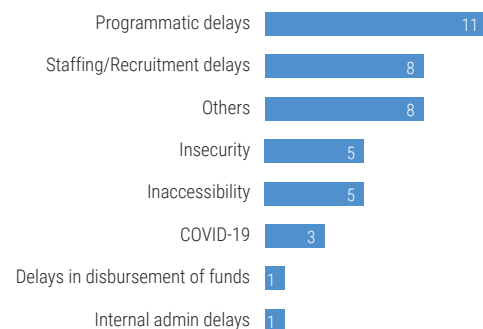
In 2022, HFU processed 28 revision requests from ongoing projects, with the most frequent requests being for no cost extensions largely due to programmatic delays in implementation. These were closely followed by requests for budget revisions that were linked to utilisation of savings from budget lines. Notably, however, although 48 types of revisions were noted, only 24 projects were revised as most requests included multiple types of revisions within projects.

[All CPF list and descriptions](#)

NUMBER OF REVISIONS IN 2022



Reasons for No Cost Extension/NCE

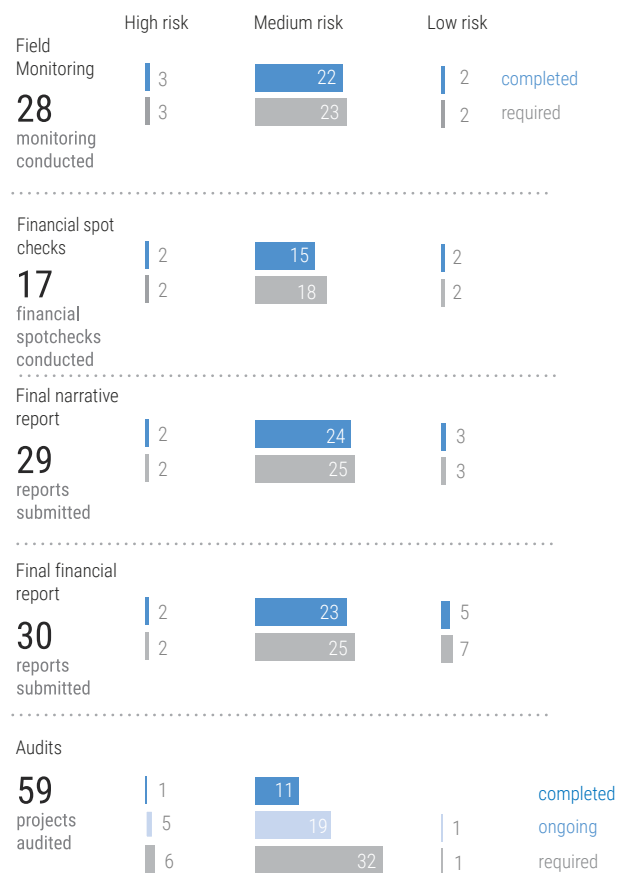


Risk management

In 2022, IHF continued to ensure the timely implementation of its assurance mechanisms in the unique context of Fund closure. To mitigate against delays in third party monitoring of 11 projects that ended in 2022, HFU staff took over the monitoring of four projects. To forestall delays in implementation under the Fund's last allocation, and because no-cost extensions could not be granted, HFU initiated kick-off meetings with partners a month after funds were disbursed. The meetings sought to obtain the necessary assurances that partner projects were already underway, and for consortium projects, that sub-partners had the required support to strengthen their capacity. The latter was particularly important given the transitioning environment and HFU was keen to ensure that national partners were equipped with the necessary internal control mechanisms that would serve them post IHF.

The audit cycle of 38 projects scheduled for August 2022 was similarly delayed by a prolonged procurement process that resulted in a late start in October/November and lasted through the holiday season and impacted the clearance of audit reports. Nevertheless, the planned financial spot checks (FSC) for 21 and field monitoring of 28 projects funded under 2021 Reserve Allocation and the 2022 Standard Allocation that had been scheduled for mid-way through implementation, were successfully conducted albeit with delays. The delays related to (i) access challenges in some target locations, (ii) unavailability of partners at scheduled times, (iii) the holiday season (and subsequent absence of partner staff), (iv) engagement of staff in priority fund closure processes, and (v) a surge deployment of the responsible finance staff in October. Reports for FSC and field monitoring of the nine projects, that include partner responses, are due for completion in the first quarter of 2023.

PROGRESS ON RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES



Risk management of projects

Following the significant inroads made in 2021 to reduce the audit caseload since the Fund's inception, 59 projects were audited in 2022 achieving 100 per cent compliance. This number included completion and approval of 38 audits that had been initiated in late 2021. The reports for 21 audits conducted in the last quarter of 2022 were submitted for review in January 2023 explaining the discrepancy in numbers reported in the system. Similarly, nine out of 37 scheduled instances of monitoring were postponed to the first quarter of 2023. Whereas the first batch of planned financial spot checks under the 2021 Reserve Allocation were completed on time, three out of the second batch of nine from the 2022 First Standard Allocation were postponed until the January 2023, explaining the slight underachievement.

Risk management of partners

IHF continued to use its rigorous performance framework in addition to ensuring that only partners who had the demonstrated capacity and presence to implement projects in the targeted locations were approved for funding. Strategic Review Committees (SRC) considered past performance in monitoring, reporting and implementation before recommending partners for funding. Prior to the allocation, partner risk levels were reviewed, and partners updated.

In 2022, the risk levels of five partners were kept at medium, while two were downgraded to high based on performance ratings. Almost 50 per cent (49) of the Fund's 107 partners, are rated as high risk, 44 as medium risk and 14 as low risk. Seven out of the nine projects in the 2022 allocation were implemented by medium risk partners and two by high risk partners with a respective value of \$7.1

18

RISK MANAGEMENT OF PROJECTS

CBPFs manage risk and effectively monitor partner capacity and performance. CBPFs utilize a full range of accountability tools and measures.

Target

100 per cent compliance with operational modalities on five categories of risk management pillars.

Results and Analysis

IHF achieved 82 to 100 per cent compliance with operational modalities for conducting monitoring and financial spot checks albeit with delays as explained above. It should be noted that because most projects are implemented under consortia with partners who have not undergone capacity assessments, the Fund typically conducts monitoring of all its projects to obtain the necessary assurances on proper implementation.

19

RISK MANAGEMENT OF PARTNERS

CBPF funding is allocated to partners as per the identified capacity and risk level.

Target

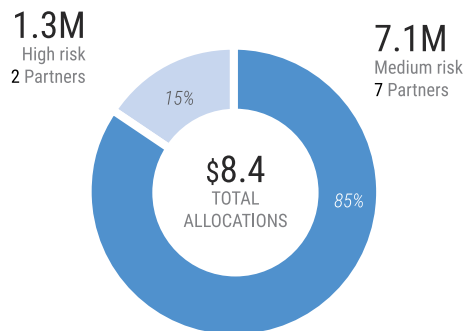
Maintaining the same number of eligible partners – 110 – compared with last year.

Results and Analysis

IHF's number of eligible partners remained largely the same as the previous year. This is attributed to concerted efforts by HFU to hold a series of bilateral meetings with partners after monitoring and financial spot check missions. Nevertheless, an additional three partners were suspended due to fraud allegations and noncompliance following audits of projects funded in the previous year bringing the total number of eligible partners to 107.

[All CPF list and descriptions](#)

million and \$1.3 million. Because of its impending closure, IHF did not conduct any capacity assessments in 2022 and did not register new partners. **IMPLEMENTATION BY PARTNER RISK LEVEL TYPE**



UPDATED RISK LEVEL BASED ON PERFORMANCE INDEX



Risk management of funding

Continued close collaboration between the Fund and OCHA’s Oversight and Compliance Unit (OCU) paid dividends with not only the administrative closure of seven historical cases from 2021 and the speedy processing of reported incidents in 2022. The number of reported incidents has steadily decreased from four in 2020, to three and two in 2021 and 2022 respectively. The reduction in reported incidents was attributed to lead partners of consortium projects stepping up their monitoring of sub-implementing partners’ performance through conducting monthly coordination meetings, field missions, financial spot checks and ensuring implementation of recommendations prior to disbursement of additional fund tranches.

The increased capacity-strengthening of partners’ internal control systems has already paid dividends with no allegations of fraud reported in the last audit of 21 projects. It is anticipated this will also prevail over the last two audit cycles scheduled for 2023.

20

RISK MANAGEMENT OF FUNDING

Appropriate oversight and assurances of funding is administered through CBPFs.

Target

Full compliance with global CBPFs and IHF standard operating procedure (SoP) on fraud management.

Results and Analysis

All potential aid diversions or fraud cases are addressed according to CBPF SOPs on fraud management. Significant progress has been made by OCHA IHF and OCU in the resolution of noncompliance cases since 2021. In 2022, an additional three cases were placed under administrative closure in 2022 bring the total to 12 cases in two years. A further six moved to ‘under settlement’ while one compliance case was closed. As mentioned earlier, the number of reported incidents has progressively declined due to rigorous strengthening of partners’ capacity by both HFU and lead partners in consortium projects.



3
REPORTED
INCIDENTS/CASE
2 OPEN
1 CLOSED



2
ON GOING
INCIDENTS/CASE

[All CPF list and descriptions](#)



Annexes

- Annex A Common Performance Framework
- Annex B Accronyms & abbreviations
- Annex C Reference Map
- Annex D IHF Advisory Board
- Annex E Allocations by recipient organizations

ANNEX A

COMMON PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

The IHF measures its performance against a management tool that provides a set of indicators to assess how well a Fund performs in relation to the policy objectives and operational standards set out in the CBPF Global Guidelines. This common methodology enables management and stakeholders involved in the governance of the Funds to identify, analyze and address challenges in reaching and maintaining a well-performing CBPF.

CBPFs embody the fundamental humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence, and function according to a set of specific principles: Inclusiveness, Flexibility, Timeliness, Efficiency, Accountability and Risk Management.



ANNEX B

ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

AAF	Access Aid Foundation	OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
AAP	Accountability to affected populations	PI	Performance Index
ACF	Action Contre la Faim	PIN	People in Need
AGOED	Aid Gate Organisation for Economic Development	PSEA	Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse
CBPF	Country-based pooled fund	PU-AMI	Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale
CORDAID	Catholic Organisation for Relief and Development	PWJ	Peace Winds Japan
COOPI	Cooperazione Internazionale	SC	Save the Children
CPF	Common Performance Framework	SEDO	Sahara Economic Development Organization
DAA	Dijla Agricultural Association	SSDF	Sorouh for Sustainable Development Foundation
DAI	Dorcas Aid International	SSORD	Sabe'a Sanabul Organization for Relief and Development
DAMA	Doctors Aid Medical Activities	S/TRC	Strategic and Technical Review Committee
DARY	Dary Human Organisation	TDH-L	Terre des Hommes Lausanne
DRC	Danish Refugee Council	UN	United Nations
EO	Executive Officer	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
FCDO	United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
GBV	Gender-based violence	VOPF	Voice of Older People and Family
GMS	Grant Management System	WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
Harikar	Harikar Organization for Protecting and Child Rights	WEO	Women Empowerment Organization
HFU	Humanitarian Financing Unit	WFP	World Food Programme
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan	WHO	World Health Organization
ICCG	Inter-Cluster Coordination Group	WLO	Women-led Organizations
IDP	Internally displaced person	WRO	Women's Rights Organizations
IHF	Iraq Humanitarian Fund	WVI	World Vision International
INGO	International non-governmental organization	YAO	Youth Activity Organization
ISIL	Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant	YAZDA	YAZDA Global Yazidi Organization
Justice Center	The Justice Center to Support Marginalized Groups in Iraq		
LWF	Lutheran World Federation		
MPCA	Multi-purpose Cash Assistance		
NGO	Non-governmental organization		
NNGO	National non-governmental organization		

ANNEX C

IHF ADVISORY BOARD

STAKEHOLDER	ORGANIZATION
Chairperson	Humanitarian Coordinator
NNGO	Doctors Aid Medical Activities (DAMA)
INGO	International Medical Corps (IMC)
NNGO	Sorouh for Sustainable Development Foundation (SSDF)
INGO	World Vision International (WVI)
UN	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
UN	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
UN	World Food Programme (WFP)
UN	World Health Organisation (WHO)
Donor	Federal Republic of Germany
Donor	Government of Italy
Donor	United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
Observer	National Coordination Committee for Iraq (NCCI)
Observer	USAID/OFDA
Observer	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)
IHF/OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
IHF/OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

ANNEX D

REFERENCE MAP

IRAQ



Disclaimers: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. **Map Sources:** Iraq CODs 2019.

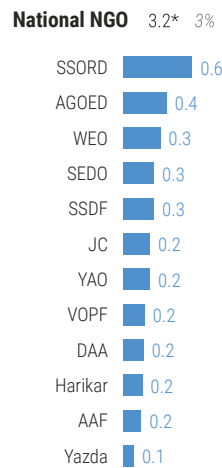


- Primary road
- Water body
- Main river
- International boundary
- Governorate boundary

ANNEX E

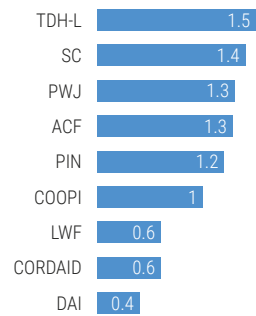
ALLOCATIONS BY RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION

In US\$ million



*Includes allocation to NNGO sub-implementing partners.

International NGO 8.1 97%



See Annex D for acronyms

#InvestInHumanity

IHF Iraq
Humanitarian
Fund

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GMS.UNOCHA.ORG

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