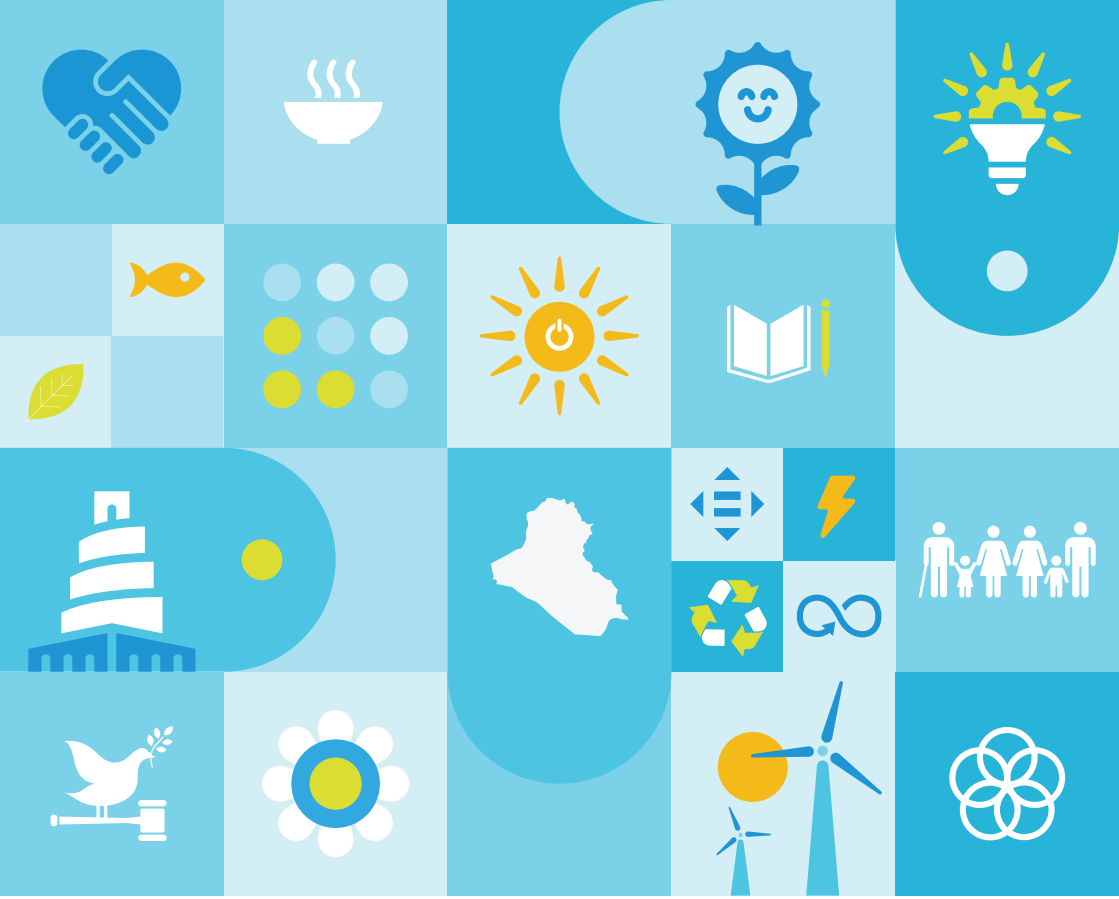

UNITED NATIONS IRAQ
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK
2025-2029

UNITED NATIONS
IRAQ

Government of
the Republic of Iraq

Iraq at a Glance: Key Facts & Figures

- **National Vision:**
  Vision 2030 & National Development Plan (2024–2028).
- **Demographic Profile:**
  A young, dynamic population with 60% under the age of 24, highlighting the need for diversified economic growth.
- **Political Inclusion:**
  Increased political participation for women, holding 28.9% of seats in the national parliament.
- **United Nations Footprint:**
  25 resident and non-resident UN entities working as a unified United Nations Country Team (UNCT) across all governorates.

The Rationale Behind Our Priorities

This framework guides UN support to Iraq during a transition toward sustainable development. Moving from short-term humanitarian operations toward a long-term development-led approach, the UNSDCF addresses the root systemic causes of vulnerability. By expanding institutional capabilities, accelerating resource diversification, and tackling climate challenges, this strategic roadmap directly translates national aspirations into resilient, shared prosperity.

Core Pillars of the Cooperation Framework

The UNSDCF outlines the collective roadmap to ensure inclusive, equitable, and resilient progress for all through four interconnected strategic pillars:

01 Inclusive Social Development

Investing in Iraq's human capital. This priority focuses on ensuring all people, particularly groups in vulnerable situations, have equitable access to high-quality health, education, and social protection systems.

Linked SDGs

02 Sustainable Economic Development

Building a diverse and prosperous economy for all. This pillar accelerates private sector growth, focusing on expanding youth and women-led Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) and fostering decent work.

Linked SDGs

03 Environment & Climate Resilience

Addressing climate challenges and water scarcity. The UN works to promote clean energy transition, optimize natural resource management, and reduce multi-hazard disaster risks to ensure a safe environment for future generations.

Linked SDGs

04 Good Governance & Rule of Law

Achieving transparent, accountable, inclusive, and effective governance. This priority strengthens public institutions, anchors the rule of law, and protects human rights to build stability and public trust.

Linked SDGs

Governance Structure & Oversight

To guarantee accountability, transparency, and national ownership, the implementation of the Cooperation Framework operates under a robust coordination architecture:

- **Joint Steering Committee (JSC):**
  The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) provides strategic oversight and direction for the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). Co-chaired by the Ministry of Planning and the United Nations Resident Coordinator, it brings together senior government officials and representatives of UN agencies, funds and programmes to review progress, strengthen coordination, address challenges, and guide implementation of the Cooperation Framework.
- **Joint Workplans:**
  Translating strategic outcomes into coordinated multi-agency operations on the ground, avoiding duplication of development efforts.
- **Progress Tracking:**
  Continual monitoring via the UNINFO online platform against localized Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators.

Partnership for the Goals

The United Nations works with the Ministry of Planning, other national counterparts, international development partners, civil society, and the private sector to advance these priorities, under the Cooperation Framework's agreed coordination arrangements. The Framework brings together 25 UN entities in support of Iraq's sustainable development.

Iraq
(includes government ministries and Toyota Iraq – private sector, Iraq-based)

Austria

Belgium

Canada

Denmark

Estonia

Finland

France

Germany

Italy

Japan

Kuwait

Netherlands

New Zealand

Norway

Republic of Korea

Slovakia

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

United Kingdom

United States of America

Multi-country
EU
(includes all European Commission and EU)

Multi-country
UN agencies and funds
(includes UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF thematic funds, UN Women, WHO, UNDP windows and other UN pooled/thematic sources)

Multi-country
Global funds/partnerships
(includes IFAD, GEF, GCF, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, PROSPECTS, World Bank, Migration MPTF and other multi-country global mechanisms)