



Project Brief: <b>Women's Peace &amp; Humanitarian Fund (WPHF)</b>	
Geographical Coverage:	Iraq
Implementing Agency:	UN Women, Member States, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).
Funding Partners:	Multi-Donor Trust Fund (Austria, Canada & UK)
Responsible parties:	UN Women
Duration:	October 1, 2018- December 31, 2021

### What is at stake?

Since the adoption of United Nations Security Council resolution (UNSCR) 1325, remarkable normative progress has been made at the global, regional, and national levels to further advance the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda. There is increasing recognition of the need to place women agencies at the center of the transition from crisis to sustainable development in order to offer enormous potential for leveraging transformative change. Women's meaningful participation in peace processes increases the likelihood of sustaining peace agreements. Women can play a crucial role in conflict prevention (including prevention of violent extremism and radicalization), and bridging divisions across communities. Research shows that women can greatly facilitate mediation efforts and peace negotiations by opening new avenues for dialogue between different factions. Furthermore, women's active participation in economic re-vitalization makes peacebuilding and recovery efforts more sustainable.

Despite the evidence base, women's contributions continue to be undervalued, under-utilized and under-resourced. In 2012-2013 only 2 per cent of aid to the peace and security sector targeted gender equality as a principal objective. Similarly, in 2014, only 20 per cent of humanitarian projects were coded as making a significant contribution to gender equality, while 65 per cent of funding reported through UN OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS) simply did not use the gender marker introduced five years ago. Additionally, humanitarian, peace

and security, and development assistance funds continue to operate in silos. Each have different aims, follow different principles, operate over different funding cycles, and are aligned with different budget lines and rules managed by different actors. Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) was launched in February 2016 in New York to address the financing gaps, create greater synergies between different

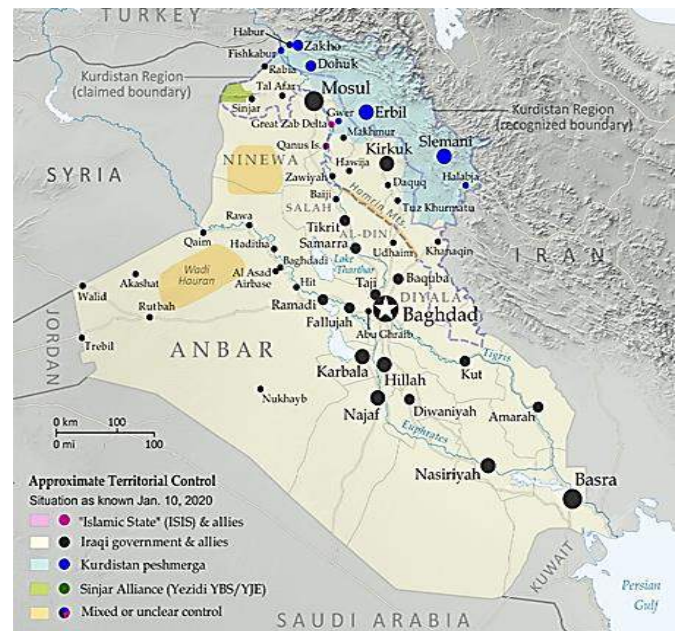


Figure [1] Map of Iraq

sources of finance, and break the silos between humanitarian, peace and security, and development assistance.

### The Project:

WPHF is an innovative partnership empowering women to be a force for crisis response and long-lasting peace. The primary goal is to bring about peaceful and gender equal societies around the globe. Hence, WPHF works towards achieving the following objectives:

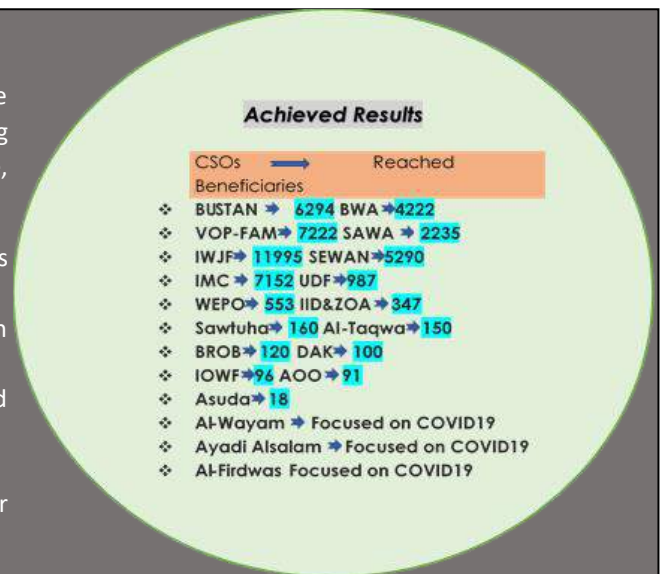
- 1) Support women's participation in decision-making processes and responses related to conflict prevention.
- 2) Increase women's engagement and leadership in humanitarian action.
- 3) Enhance women's representation and leadership in formal and informal peace negotiations.
- 4) Protect women and girls' human rights.
- 5) Promote women's involvement in economic recovery of their communities.

The duration of this project is around 48 months for 2 rounds (24 months each round). In partnership with 20 CSOs, the aim is to empower women and girls to play remarkable roles in peacebuilding and prevent conflict among their communities via implementing UNSCR 1325 and strengthening women's participation in humanitarian/crisis response planning, frameworks and programming. Through this project, UN Women Country Office in Iraq is supporting WPHF in the following outcomes:

**Outcome 1:** Enabling environment for the implementation of WPS commitments

**Outcome 2:** Conflict prevention

**Outcome 3:** Enhance women's representation and leadership in formal and informal peace negotiations. The project is being implemented by UN Women Iraq Country Office in partnership with 20 women associations and local CSOs as direct implementing partners and 10 women's associations as partner organizations (making it a total of 30 CSOs involved targeting all of Iraq as shown in figure [1]) to achieve the expected results.



### What do we aim to achieve?

Some of the outstanding achievements by our partners and CSOs are listed below:

- **Voice of Older People and Family (VOP-FAM)** reached 5,791 females, 1,432 males and around 21,669 as indirect beneficiaries through conducting different activities including “Establishment of a Women Peacebuilding and Early Warning System” in Duhok and its districts in addition to two Yazidi IDPs camps.
- **Sawa Organization for Human Rights** reached 280 females, 255 males and 1700 indirect beneficiaries by implementing capacity building trainings which led to more awareness raised around UNSCR 1325 and INAP (Iraq National Plan to implement UNSCR 1325).
- **Bustan Association for Children & Adults Protection** reached 6,294 females and about 70,000 indirect beneficiaries via providing psychological and legal services in five Iraqi provinces (Diyala, Kirkuk, Salah-Al-Din, Ninewa and Anbar). As a result, the confidence and self-esteem of women was strengthened.
- **Iraqi Women Journalists Forum (IWJF)** reached 287 females, 254 males and 11,454 indirect beneficiaries via conducting training on UNSCR 1325 for journalists as well as four orientation sessions in Baghdad, Anbar, Mosul and Diyala. As a result, Iraqi journalists became more vigilant on the importance of raising the public awareness on gender issues and the vital role of women in their communities.
- **Sewan Women's Empowerment Organization** reached 1,315 females, 975 males and 3,000 indirect beneficiaries by conducting 25-day training in Duhok and Nineveh to improve communication skills and raise awareness on the importance of engagement of women and girls in peacebuilding within their communities.
- **Iraqi Institution for Development IID & ZOA** reached 347 participants (239 female and 108 male) via conducting four community peacebuilding trainings in the West and East sides of Mosul.