

**Overview**  
**Iraq Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) 2009**  
**Pillars I and II**  
**Updated: 21 August 2008**

**Background**

The humanitarian situation in Iraq and the surrounding region continues to call for a concerted and comprehensive international response. In the past, the humanitarian community has developed separate strategies and appeals to address the situation. In an effort to bring greater coherency and coordination to the overall response to Iraq and the surrounding region, in April 2008, the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs agreed to develop a consolidated appeal for 2009 that consists of two connected pillars: (i) a national CAP inside Iraq and (ii) a regional CAP for countries hosting Iraqi refugees. The Appeal will be presented in December 2008 as part of the annual CAP launch led by the UN Secretary General in New York.

These guidelines are intended to provide all participants in the appeals process with an understanding of the overall strategic objectives, the appeal structure, and the timeline. Specific guidelines relating to the two pillars of the CAP are annexed to this document. This document will be further discussed during the 27-28 July Iraq CAP 2009 workshop in Amman, and revised accordingly.

**Situation Overview**

Iraq: Urgent needs across key humanitarian sectors are widespread and accumulating due to acute deprivation of essential services, armed conflict, generalized violence and rights violations. The Iraqi people have faced long-term internal displacement and challenging return situations and lack of access to impartial humanitarian assistance. The Iraq CAP 2008 was the first joint international effort since 2003 to respond to immediate priority needs among vulnerable Iraqis according to a common strategy for the UN, international organization and the international and national NGOs, in close coordination with the Iraqi authorities. The process leading to the preparation of the Iraq CAP 2009 (Pillar I) will take stock of the developments in the humanitarian situation in Iraq and accordingly adjust inter-agency response strategies.

Refugee hosting countries: Some two million refugees have fled Iraq in search of asylum and durable solutions to their plight. Countries in the region continue to host the vast majority of Iraqi refugees, in particular, the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria) and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (Jordan), as well as Lebanon, Egypt, Turkey, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Gulf States and other countries as far as Sudan, Armenia, Chile, Brazil and Argentina, among others. The Iraqi refugee situation represents the largest urban population that UNHCR has ever been called upon to address, and poses an unprecedented load on the host countries' economies and social infrastructure. Strong cooperation between Governments, UNHCR, other UN agencies, national and international NGOs, donors, and other partners has resulted in significant strides in meeting the urgent needs of Iraqi refugees. However, planning for ongoing protection and assistance, including for refugee-affected communities, throughout 2009 is essential to ensure that host countries continue to remain welcoming environments in which Iraqi refugees can live their lives in safety and dignity while awaiting return or resettlement and, where possible, are enabled to integrate sustainably. Planning is also required for the contingency of voluntary returns to Iraq, as and when this is feasible and appropriate.

**Approach**

The CAP is a coordination, strategic planning and advocacy tool, which serves as a basis for fund-raising by bringing together UN agencies, NGO, and other partners to adopt a shared

strategic direction to optimise operational capacity on the ground. Both in Iraq and in refugee hosting countries, the process will employ a broad, consultative inter-agency approach, inclusive of all relevant stakeholders, including UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and NGOs.

The process inside Iraq (Pillar I) will be coordinated by the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq using the collaborative approach. The process in refugee hosting countries (Pillar II) will be coordinated by UNHCR in close consultation and cooperation with respective Resident Coordinators and UNCTs. Resident Coordinators will ensure that UNCTs are effectively mobilized for this effort. The Pillars will work together as needed to harmonise their strategy and projects.

### **Process**

The process will begin with developing a shared understanding of scenarios with respect to the humanitarian situation both within Iraq and in refugee hosting countries, and linkages between the two. Within each pillar, humanitarian partners will then develop a humanitarian needs analysis, set strategic and operational objectives, and develop a response strategy, all of which form the basis of an overall humanitarian action plan. Project selection criteria will be discussed and developed to ensure projects included in the CAP meet the agreed strategic objectives, as set out in the attached annexes. For Pillar I, contents of the Iraq CAP 2008 and the Mid-Year Status Update (June 2008) will be a starting point for the discussion on the Common Humanitarian Action Plan (CHAP) and the sector response plans. For Pillar II, the CAP process will vary from the development of a comprehensive CHAP and sector response strategies in countries hosting large numbers of Iraqi refugees, to individual projects meeting the project selection criteria developed for Pillar II. The type of process required will be decided on a case by case basis (for more information see Annex 1).

At the conclusion of this process, a common appeal document will be produced, harmonizing the two approaches. The final document will be comprised of two parts covering both Iraq and refugee hosting countries. The first part will present the 2009 CHAPs and the project selection criteria. The second part will compile project sheets that have met the selection criteria.

### **Proposed Timeline**

<b>Pillar I: Iraq</b>	<b>Pillar II: Refugee Hosting Countries</b>	<b>Activity</b>
27-28 July	27-28 July	Iraq CAP 2009 Workshop in Amman
4 <sup>th</sup> week of September	5 August to 5 September	Country level CAP workshops
26 September to 15 October	5 August to 7 October	Country level planning
	8-15 October	Consolidation and review of Pillar II country submissions
16 to 26 October	16-26 October	Harmonisation and consolidation of the Iraq CAP 2009 (Pillars I and II)
27 October	27 October	Iraq CAP 2009 revised and sent to OCHA Geneva (Pillars I and II)
3 December	3 December	CAP launch in New York

### **Appeal Structure**

The Iraq CAP 2009 appeal document will include an executive summary, a review of achievements in 2008, and a general overview of the context in Iraq and the refugee hosting countries. The Appeal will then separately present the CHAPs, strategic monitoring plans, project selection criteria, and other annexes for Iraq, and the refugee hosting countries (see separate attachment for more detail). This narrative will be accompanied by a separate document including the humanitarian partners' individual project sheets, which provide a brief project description that will include information on the objectives, activities, outcomes, beneficiaries, partners in implementing the project, the budget, and funds requested for 2009.

For Pillar I, contents of the Iraq CAP 2008 and the Mid-Year Status Update (June 2008) will be a starting point for the discussions during the CAP workshop. For Pillar II, please refer to Annex 1.

Annex 1: Overview – Pillar II for Refugee-Hosting Countries