In partnership with local NGOs and in collaboration with government institutions and other UN agencies, the ILO adopts a multi-sectoral approach towards the prevention of the worst forms of child labour. This project aims towards three complementary outcomes at the national policy and local community level to ensure increased protection for children and sustainably addressing root causes of child labour.

I. Direct services for prevention, withdrawal and rehabilitation

ILO and partners will coordinate with local government and relevant institutional actors of Ninewa and Dohuk to establish Child Labour Monitoring Systems (CLMS) in selected governorates and set up an identification and referral system of children at risk of/engaged in child labour. The ILO aims to also develop a cost-effective pilot model for bridging education for the gradual reinsertion of children through engaging them in formal and non-formal settings in activities involving the ILO Supporting Children through Education, Arts and the Media (SCREAM) methodology. This includes undertaking a series of training modules of teachers and school administrators, and facilitating and monitoring identification and enrolment of drop out children and children at risk in formal and non-formal education and mobile schooling. The project will also provide access to caretakers and older siblings above the minimum age for employment with referrals to employment centres that ILO is supporting in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA). The project will also provide a specific number of older siblings access to apprenticeships opportunities.

II. Legal and policy framework

Upon the request of the Government of Iraq, the ILO will develop the National Action Plan against Child Labour (NAP) with the technical support and guidance of a committee that includes the Ministries of Labour and Social Affairs, and Education, as well as UN agencies and NGOs. Through the project, the ILO and partners will also advocate for a revised education law which would raise the age of compulsory schooling to align with the minimum age of employment.

III. Knowledge, awareness and capacity building

The project aims at enhancing the capacity of key national stakeholders to perform their duties against the worst forms of child labour through training of MOLSA staff, labour inspectors, extension workers, teachers, counsellors, Trade Unions, CBOs and community committees in selected governorates on identifying and acting against the worst forms of child labour. The ILO and partners will also conduct a media awareness campaign on the worst forms of child labour promoting attitudinal change among the general public, as well as develop guidelines for including child labour concerns in relevant UN planning and data collection initiatives.