

تواريخ البحث	Gap in Targeting Human Development, its Obstacles, and Processing them in Iraq for the period (2005 – 2022)
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Abstract :

Studying the gap in targeting human development in Iraq and its indicators is an important issue in clarifying the effectiveness of development plans to target the development and building of capabilities and skills for human resources. Therefore, the current study sought to diagnose the extent of the gap between the target for human development and the actual reality of its development indicators in Iraq during the period (2005–2022), in various sectors, economic, educational and health sectors, and clarifying the extent of the success of human development plans in Iraq, which increases the contribution of human resources to improve the development indicators of the Iraqi economy. It is also necessary to diagnose the obstacles that made the gap expand between targeting the development of human element indicators and the actual reality. For these indicators in Iraq during the period under study, therefore, nine treatments must be presented to change the situation of the economic, educational, and health sectors of the human resources in Iraq.

Study reaches a number of conclusions, the most important of which are: Targeting human development indicators in Iraq are important and vital matters that support the economy and its growth, through the contribution of competent human elements who have a high level of education and health, and according to plans with a clear context that are implemented efficiently, and with follow-up and oversight. True to the objectives of these plans, resulting in human resources that have an effective contribution to revitalizing the Iraqi economic sectors. It is also necessary to have a clean environment free of corruption and provide appropriate economic, political and security conditions that contribute to achieving high levels of human development in Iraq, and to develop a solution to the obstacles that may distort the targeting of human development in its desired directions and in the rates of implementation of its goals.

Keywords: Human Hvelopment, Human Development Indicators, Educational Sector, Health Sector, Standard of Living.

1. Introduction

The process of targeting human development has become one of the most important priorities of policies, plans and strategies that are considered by the most correct economic and social decision and changing its development reality, as the interest in the issue of human development in Iraq was in light of the deterioration in economic and social indicators such as the aggravation of the problem of poverty, the increasing rates of unemployment, displacement, population migration and the decline in the economic situation of the Iraqi individual. Therefore, Iraq has been working to improve the trends and growth of these indicators and change them in a way that benefits human victory through the development of plans and strategies that seek to achieve acceptable levels of human development. However, the existence of a number of obstacles faced by the Iraqi economy has led to the emergence of a gap between the target for human development and the actual reality of developing indicators in the economic, educational and health sectors. Therefore, we have worked to study these obstacles and seek to develop remedies to change the reality of human elements by raising their contributions in the economic and productive sectors. in Iraq, leading to the development of the economy and directing its resources towards optimal uses and working to sustain them.

1. 1. Importance: Studying the gap between the six objectives of human development in Iraq, considering that its indicators contribute effectively to building the capabilities and skills of human elements. The issue of diagnosing the extent of the gap from the actual reality in Iraq in its economic, educational and health sectors is an important issue to clarify the success of the development plans for the human element available in Iraq and the levels of growth of its development indicators, which will help to move the Iraqi economy through the contribution of manpower to improving the development indicators of the economy.

1. 2. Problem: Although Iraq has huge economic, financial and human resources , the development policies adopted have not achieved their desired goals, and these policies have faced a number of economic and social obstacles that have widened the gap between the target and the reality in Iraq, which required a number of treatments that improve the economic , educational and health sectors of human beings in Iraq.

1. 3. Hypothesis: It is based on the hypothesis that "there is a gap between the targets of human development indicators and the actual reality achieved for the course of economic and social indicators in Iraq, which led to the development of the process of achieving the desired human development."

1. 4. Objective: to diagnose and study the obstacles that have widened the gap in targeting human development and between the actual reality of the economic, educational and health sectors in Iraq during the period (2005-2022), in order to clarify a number of treatments that raise the levels of human development in Iraq.

2. Concept: The concept of development has expanded in its contents and dimensions as it includes community life, so it is a holistic medical concept interested in multiple aspects so that it does not focus only on the material and living progress of society, but expands to touch higher levels of economic life with the development of its

capabilities, skills and talents. Accordingly, the International Labour Organization (ILO) in the nineties of the last century describes the concept of "Basic Needs", as the organization and the atmosphere saw that one of the priorities of development is to provide jobs and basic human needs such as food, shelter, clothing, education (at its various stages) and health care. Therefore, attention was directed towards investing in the human element in order to target the achievement of advanced levels of development, as investment in the human element was expanded as a resource that contributes to economic growth, as developed countries advanced by more than 80% as a result of increased investment in the human element, while the worker's share of physical capital did not grow more than 20% (Ali, 2014: 156).

Therefore, ideas have been launched that seek to develop the human element and clarify its concept academically and scientifically to achieve satisfactory results that reflect positively on the social and economic reality. The concept of human development has been defined as a social and economic development process for the human element as one of the tools of development and its goal towards change, because this element is capable of development, creativity and renewal, through its ideas and capabilities that contribute to raising its productivity and the productivity of other elements that contribute to the development of real production, as the human element is the nerve of production that has unlimited energy that improves by employing this element in productive directions through the development of its skills and potentials in education, health care for its life and the provision of material needs, in a way that leads to targeting human development in society (Muqaba, 2016: 338).

Human development is the optimal use of economic resources in a way that achieves justice and ensures the achievement of economic growth for the country. This development has been defined as "a process aimed at continuously improving the well-being of all human beings in a country, as active participants targeting development and the fair distribution of economic benefits resulting from raising growth and development rates" (Awad, 2013: 20). Therefore, human development works to provide the best opportunities that exploit the available human energy to ensure the well-being of society and increase its economic contribution, as basic factors must be available to ensure the targeting of human development, including (Al-Bahadli, 2019: 290-291):

- A. Raising the standard of living of community members.
- B. Achieving political stability, and providing societal freedom through democracy.
- C. Identifying and diagnosing the human potential available, especially among young people in order to exploit them to achieve high rates of economic growth.
- D. Improving health conditions, and providing satisfactory levels of education and training through continuous plans, in order to obtain good outputs that contribute effectively to society and the economy.
- E. Knowing the required competencies of the economy and developing them in a way that keeps pace with the continuous changes.
- F. Changing some concepts that disrupt the element of work, in a way that contributes to raising production and productivity, to reduce poverty and unemployment rates.

Thus, human development is a process aimed at achieving improvements and developments in the capabilities of the human element, in order to increase its contribution to the equitable and optimal distribution of economic resources, in order to achieve efficiency in the use of these resources through the

best use of available human energies, and to ensure the occurrence and sustainability of targeted development changes.

3. Targeting: Development plans and strategies usually target a number of indicators related to human development that are measurable and achievable, as economic decision makers or researchers in the field of human development can evaluate development plans and carry out them in the field of achieving the targeted impact of human development. It is not possible to clarify the most important indicators that will be targeted to achieve progress in human development in a country as follows:

3. 1. Targeting Social and Economic Indicators: They are indicators related to the human element aimed at developing it, and providing the social and economic environment that allows the growth of the productivity of this element. Therefore, human development plans seek to achieve the following: (Al-Rifai, 2006: 27-28) and (Al-Khadimi and Hamouda, 2012: 15-16)

3. 1. 1. Poverty Reduction: It is achieved through a number of measures, including: reducing unemployment rates among economically active groups, and improving health and educational services for the poor class, in order to help the poor cross the poverty line and alleviate poverty and its levels.

3. 1. 2. Raising Living Standards and Income: By increasing the average per capita GDP, reducing inflation rates, working to change unproductive consumption patterns, and providing job opportunities.

3. 2. Target the Health Indicator: It is one of the indicators of human development because of the role it plays in the development of man and the sustainability of his production. This is done by targeting diseases that may affect man, treating them and working to prevent them, as well as taking care of health (Al-Enazi, 2012: 243-244). Therefore, it is targeted to increase spending on health institutions and medical hospitals, raise life expectancy per capita, reduce mortality rates for new births, reduce maternal mortality rates, increase the number of doctors and their percentages of the population, work to establish a new health center and develop the old ones, and provide medical equipment and health staff to these centers (Al-Faraji and Hamad, 2021: 329-330).

3. 3. Targeting the Education Indicator: Education is one of the important aspects of human development, as it has an impact on supplementing the development process of the human element with capabilities, capabilities and ideas that increase the volume of production and productivity of workers, that the educated worker is more productive than the uneducated worker. There are ways and methods that raise the levels of education in order to target human development, as the outputs of the educational sector contribute to the preparation of important cadres to achieve human development, through the development and upgrading of educational outputs for the development and development of the economy and society. Education is a targeted investment to achieve multiple benefits that increase individual and local income. It also raises the levels of experience and skills of individuals and society. Therefore, it is imperative to target investment in education to have a role in developing

the capabilities and skills of the human element, and to increase its creativity and innovations to raise economic growth and improve society (Mohammed and Hindi, 2018: 79-80).

4. The Gap: In this paragraph, the gap between what is intended to be achieved from human development in Iraq and the reality that has impeded the achievement of high rates of this development will be diagnosed, which was the reason for the gaps between the target and the actual reality. These gaps can be diagnosed as follows:

4. 1. Gap in Targeting Socio-Economic Indicators:

4. 1. 1. GDP Growth Rates and Per Capita: This indicator is one of the important indicators to measure the level of economic growth that contributes to the achievement of human development, as shown by "Mahbub Haq", who showed that targeting human development in the presence of economic growth accompanying this development, as the success of human development is achieved by directing growth towards improving the living and economic conditions of the human element, which leads to improving the lives of current generations to be the safety valve to protect the available economic resources for the benefit of future generations (Haq, 1994: 3-4).

Development plans and strategies in Iraq were developed from 2005 to 2022. Its main economic goal was to achieve annual GDP growth rates in all economic sectors, to increase per capita output in a way that contributes to raising human development rates in Iraq. However, the reality of the Iraqi economy has recorded other actual growth rates of output and per capita. This has led to a gap between what is targeted and what is actually achieved, as shown in the following table:

Table: 1, Targeted and Actual Growth Rate of GDP and Per Capita, and the Gap between them in Iraq for the period (2005-2022)

Items Periods	GDP growth rate			Average Per Capita		
	Target (%)	Actual (%)	Gap (%)*	Target (%)	Actual (%)	Gap (%)*
2007 – 2005	11.47	5.3	-6.16	7.3	2.3	-5.0
2014 – 2010	9.38	4	-5.39	5.6	3.0	-2.6
2017 – 2013	13.31	4.5	-8.77	8.4	1.6	-6.8
2022 – 2018	7.0	-0.96	-7.96	4.2	-1.8	-6.0

Source: The percentages were calculated by the researcher based on:

- Iraqi Ministry of Planning, National Development Plans for the period (2005-2022), various pages.
- Iraqi Ministry of Planning, Annual Statistical Group for the period (2005-2016), Central Bureau of Statistics, Directorate of National Accounts, various pages.
- Iraqi Ministry of Planning, Preliminary and Quarterly Estimates of GDP for the period (2017 - 2022), Central Bureau of Statistics, Directorate of National Accounts, Separate pages.
- World Bank, Growth rates of average per capita GDP for the period (2005 – 2022), Website: <https://data.albankaldawli.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.KD.ZG?locations=IQ>

* Gap = Actual - Target.

Note from Table (1) that the growth of GDP and per capita plans did not achieve the goal of achieving targeted growth rates, as the actual growth rates of GDP and per capita in Iraq for the period (2005-2022) were less than the target growth rate, as the gap between the growth of actual and target output recorded negative

rates during the referred period, as the gap reached rates between (8.77%- 5.39%), the gap for per capita growth rates of output was between (6.8%- 2.6%).

4. 1. 2. Poverty and Unemployment: Living standards in Iraq have not been at the required level as a result of the population migration of skilled and unskilled individuals, peasants and other members of Iraqi society, in addition to internal displacement as a result of military operations and terrorist groups (ISIS). The above has led to an increase in unemployment rates, which has caused an increase in the number of poor groups in Iraqi society. The number of poor people increased from 6648 to 12271 between 2007 and 2021, as these are the numbers of poor people who fall below the poverty line, which was estimated during the period (2007 – 2021) between (76896 - 115000) Dinars, during the same period, the poverty rate was (18.9% - 29.6%), to reach the poverty gap (4.1% - 6.6%), in addition to the severity of poverty (1.4% 3.0%), as shown in Table (2) as follows:

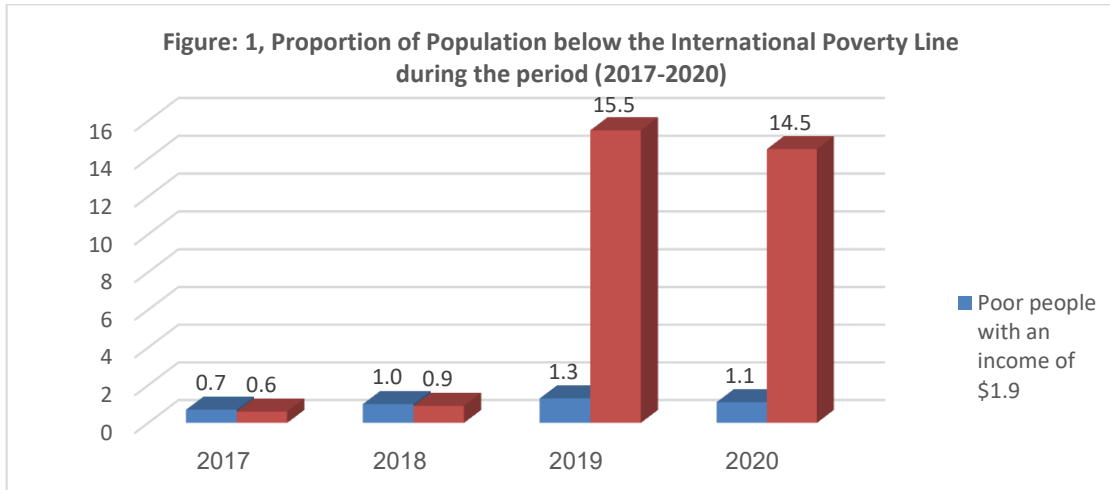
Table: 2, The path of poverty indicators in Iraq for the period (2007 – 2021)

Items Years	Poverty Threshold (Dinars)	Poverty Rate (%)	Number of Poor (people)	Poverty Gap (%)	Poverty Severity (%)
2007	76896	22.4	6.648	4.5	1.4
2012	105500	18.9	6.465	4.1	1.4
2014	105500	22.5	8.101	6.6	3.0
2017	-	21.3	-	6.3	2.8
2018	110880	20.5	7.370	4.1	1.4
2020	111000	26.7	11.170	-	-
2021	115000	29.6	12.271	-	-

Source: Table prepared by the researcher based on:

- Iraqi Ministry of Planning, Millennium Development Goals in Iraq for the year 2004, A Look Beyond 2015, p. 10.
- Iraqi Ministry of Planning. (2017). Iraq Poverty Survey 2017, Separate pages.
- Iraqi Ministry of Planning. (2019). Iraq: The First Voluntary Report on the Sustainable Development Goals 2019: Victory of the Will of a Nation, Iraq, pp. 34-35.
- Iraqi Ministry of Planning. (2021). The Second Voluntary Report on the Sustainable Development Goals 2021: Iraq ... Returning to the Development Path, Iraq, p. 38.

Figure (1) shows the status of Iraq within the indicator of the population below the international poverty line during the period (2017-2020) as follows:



Source: Figure was prepared by the researcher based on:

- Iraqi Ministry of Planning. (2021). The Second Voluntary Report on the Sustainable Development Goals 2021: Iraq ... Returning to the development path, Iraq, p. 39.

Figure (1) shows that the population in Iraq who are below the international poverty line is between (1.9-3.2) dollars per day (Iraqi Ministry of Planning, 2021: 39). During the period (2017-2020), the poor recorded an income of 1.9 dollars between (0.7% – 1.3%), with the percentages of the poor with an income of 2.3 dollars between (0.6% – 15.5%). The fluctuation in the treatment of poverty in Iraq is due to the faltering development plans and policies in Iraq, and the consequences of terrorist attacks on some Iraqi provinces before this period, which led to population displacement and military operations against these groups to liberate the provinces from their control. All of the above increased the fragility of the standard of living of individuals and delayed treatment of poverty rates in Iraq.

The above reasons have also led to the emergence and exacerbation of unemployment in some years, as the unemployment rates in Iraq during the period (2005-2021) are shown in the following table (3):

Table: 3, Annual change of unemployment rates (for age groups 15 years and older) in Iraq for a period of (2005 – 2021)

Years	2005	2006	2007	2008*	2011	2012	2013
Unemployment (%)	17.9	17.5	11.7	15.3	14.2	11.9	10.5
Annual rate of change (%) **	.	-2.6	-33.1	31.1	-7.4	-16.1	-11.2
Years	2014	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Unemployment (%)	10.6	10.8	16.0	8.2	8.2	12.8	16.5
Annual rate of change (%) **	0.1	2.1	47.9	-48.8	0.0	56.1	28.9

Source: Table prepared by the researcher based on:

- Iraqi Ministry of Planning. (2023). Statistical Group for the year 2023, Central Statistical Organization, Directorate of National Accounts, Separate pages.
- Ahmed, Hassan Abdallah. (2021). Indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals in Iraq (2016-2020), Al-Bayan Center for Studies and Planning Series, Iraq, p. 14.

* After 2008 until 2010, no survey of unemployment rates was conducted by the Iraqi Ministry of Planning.

** Annual rates of change were extracted by the researcher.

It is noted from Table (3) that unemployment rates in Iraq have registered a relative decline, as unemployment decreased from 17.9% to 11.7% in 2005, 2006 and 2007, with annual rates of change of 2.6% and 33.1% - 47.9%, respectively. Then, in 2008, unemployment rose to 15.3%, with an annual rate of change of 31.1%. Unemployment rates swung back between (10.5% - 16%) during the period (2011-2017), with annual rates of change between (16.1% - 47.9%). One of the reasons for the high unemployment rates in Iraq after 2014 is the increase of displaced persons from their areas after ISIS control over them, which led to the loss of their jobs in the agricultural and industrial sectors, which led to an increase in the poverty gap in the provinces controlled by ISIS (Mosul, Anbar, Salah al-Din), as poverty rose by 41.2%, and the central governorates of Iraq witnessed an increase of 18.6%, while the percentage in the southern governorates rose to 31.5%. In the capital Baghdad, the poverty rate rose to 12.8% (Iraqi Ministry of Planning, 2017: 4), as a result of the consequences of population displacement.

During the period (2018-2021), unemployment rates increased from 8.2% to 16.5%, with annual rates of change ranging from (-48.8% - 56.1%). The reason for the unemployment rates during this period is due to the economic, health (Corona pandemic) and social shocks faced by the Iraqi economy (youth unrest in 2019). These shocks were reflected on the economic side in the decline in investment and trade rates to reduce the employment rates of the workforce in Iraq.

4. 2. The Gap in Targeting the Education Indicator: In achieving human development, Iraq needs a workforce with diverse educational levels, which leads to raising its contribution to production and increasing its productivity through human investment. Therefore, you have set the goal of changing the levels of education in Iraq during the period (2005-2022), as the plans for the development of the educational sector during the period under study aimed to improve the enrollment rates of students in the primary education stage by raising the percentages from 84.25% to 99%. Human development plans in Iraq for the target period from 2010 to 2014 also sought to increase students' completion rates of intermediate education by 97%, but human development plans from 2015 to 2022 have reduced the target percentage to 45%, and then raised the target percentage to 70%. With regard to preparatory education, the Human Development Plan in Iraq for the period (2010-2014) adopted the goal of reaching 350 students/schools, then the human development plans for the period (2015-2022) aimed to achieve 30% and 45%. As shown in Table (4):

Table: 4, Targeted Ratios for the Education Indicator in Iraq according to the National Development Plans for the period (2005 – 2022)

Period	Primary Education (%)	Intermediate Education (%)	Secondary Education (%)
2007 – 2005	84.3	.	.
2014 – 2010	98	97	.
2017 – 2013	95	45	30
2022 – 2018	99	70	45

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:

- Iraqi Ministry of Planning, National Development Plans for the period (2005-2022), various pages.

In order to diagnose the gap in the education index in Iraq during the period of the study, it is necessary to determine the reality of education. Therefore, Table (5) was prepared, which shows the number of students in the stages of primary and secondary education, as well as the dropout rates of students for each stage and its total during the academic years from (2004/2005) to (2020/2021). As shown in the following table:

Table: 5, Number of students Per Trip and their Dropout Rates from Education in Iraq for a period of (2005 – 2022)

Years	Primary Education				Secondary Education				Total Dropout Rates (%)*	Rate of Change (%)*
	Student	Rate of Change (%)*	School/Student	Dropout Rates (%)*	Student	Rate of Change (%)*	School/Student	Sourc Dropout Rates (%)*		
2005 / 2004	3767369	.	339	3.8	1437842	.	402	4.1	7.9	.
2006 / 2005	3941190	4.6	333	2.8	1389017	-3.4	354	4.0	6.8	-13.9
2007 / 2006	4150940	5.3	342	3.0	1491933	7.4	363	4.2	7.1	4.4
2008 / 2007	4333154	4.4	346	2.4	1603623	7.5	367	3.0	5.4	-23.9
2009 / 2008	4494955	3.7	342	2.3	1750049	9.1	368	2.8	5.1	-5.6
2010 / 2009	4672453	3.9	341	2.9	1877434	7.3	362	3.7	6.6	29.4
2011 / 2010	4864096	4.1	346	2.5	1953766	4.1	357	3.2	5.8	-12.1
2012 / 2011	5124257	5.3	349	2.1	2211421	13.2	366	2.5	4.6	-20.7
2013 / 2012	5351319	4.4	353	1.9	2394678	8.3	373	2.4	4.3	-6.5
2014 / 2013	5558674	3.9	352	1.8	2528133	5.6	357	2.3	4.1	-4.7
2015 / 2014	4283044	-22.9	397	1.7	2032880	-19.6	410	2.7	4.4	7.3
2016 / 2015	4997052	16.7	385	2.2	2442935	20.2	406	3.3	5.5	25.0
2017 / 2016	5473997	9.5	390	2.3	2624140	7.4	397	2.5	4.9	-10.9
2018 / 2017	6197870	13.2	388	2.1	2933539	11.8	392	2.3	4.4	-10.2
2019 / 2018	6501053	4.9	377	1.9	3140110	7.0	386	2.3	4.2	-4.5
2019 / 2020**	6612754	1.7	356	2.0	3456121	10.1	353	2.4	4.4	4.8
2020 / 2021**	6454872	-2.4	324	2.1	3668820	6.2	347	2.5	4.6	4.5

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:

- Iraqi Ministry of Planning, Annual Statistical Group for the period (2005-2017), Central Bureau of Statistics, Directorate of National Accounts, various pages.

- Iraqi Ministry of Planning, Primary and Secondary Education Statistics in Iraq for the academic years from (2017/2018) to (20 20/20 21), Central Bureau of Statistics, Directorate General of Educational Planning, Department of Statistics, various pages.

* The results and reasons mentioned in the above table columns are extracted by the researcher.

* Estimated data.

It is clear from Table (5) that the number of students who enrolled in primary education in Iraq for the aforementioned academic years has fluctuated relatively, as these numbers ranged between (3767369 – 6612754) students, with rates of change ranging between (-22.9% - 16.7%). The number of students per school was between (324 – 397). The dropout rates of students from education were between (1.7% - 3.8%), as they are high rates that lead to a decline in human development rates in Iraq due to the increase in illiteracy among children. With regard to the number of students who have completed secondary education in Iraqi schools, it has increased relatively (except for some academic years), as the number of students ranged between (1389017 – 366820) students, with positive rates of change between (4.1% - 20.2%). These numbers were distributed to each secondary school in a fluctuating manner, reaching between (354 – 410) students / school. The dropout rates of students from secondary education were heading for a relative decline, as the rates ranged between

(2.3% - 4.2%). As such, the total dropout rates of students from primary and secondary education have recorded a fluctuating decline, with rates ranging between (4.1% - 7.9%), with rates of change mostly negative (as noted in Table 3), as the rates ranged between (-23.9% - 4.8%).

4. 3. The Gap in Targeting the Health Indicator: Human development plans in Iraq aimed to improve the quality of life for the individual, through planning to increase the health services provided by expanding the establishment of health centers and medical institutions, targeting the provision of drinking water and expanding the provision of sanitation services, which leads to a sense of the health status of the community and its productive capacity, in order to achieve the goal of human development in relation to human health.

National development plans have set one of its goals in improving public health indicators (one of the indicators of human development), according to the objectives of the development plan for the period (2010-2014) to raise the proportion of people served by sanitation by 100% for the service of the population of the city of Baghdad, and 35% to serve the rest of the Iraqi provinces, seeking to increase the supply of Iraqis with drinking water by 10% for urban areas, 26% for rural areas. Also, expanding medical institutions in Iraq by 50%, increasing the establishment of new hospitals by 41%, seeking to increase the provision of primary health care services by 20%, as well as increasing the number of specialized medical centers by 50% (Iraqi Ministry of Planning, 2009: Separate pages).

However, the reality in Iraqi society is different from the aforementioned health indicators. According to the Sustainable Development Report, the percentage of the population to whom sanitation services are provided reached 96.1% in 2016. The percentage of the population that had access to drinking water in the same year was 83.6% in urban areas and 69.9% in rural areas. The percentage decreased from 2015, as the percentage of people served with drinking water reached 86.8% in urban areas and 75% in rural areas (Iraqi Ministry of Planning, 2017: 24). Thus, there is a decrease of 3.2% in urban areas and 5.1% in rural areas.

With regard to the establishment and expansion of medical institutions and health centers, in 2015, the number of medical hospitals, health institutions and popular clinics reached approximately 372 hospitals, 4114 health institutions, and 356 clinics. The number of hospitals in 2016 was 381, an increase of 2.4%. As for the number of other health institutions in the same year, it reached about 4200 institutions, an increase of 2.1%, in the same year, the popular clinics reached about 375 clinics, an increase of 5.3% (Iraqi Ministry of Planning, 2017: 433 – 434). The above indicates that there is a relative weakness in the provision of health services to the Iraqi individual, indicating a gap between what is approved in the development plans in Iraq and what is on the ground.

This has raised the incidence of diseases that led to an increase in deaths in the previous two years, which amounted to 10,278 and 8,341 deaths, respectively. Deaths per 100,000 of the population have been recorded at 30% and 23.8%, respectively (Statistics of the Central Bureau of Statistics, 2017-2018: Separate pages). This hinders the occurrence of human development in Iraq.

The human development indicators in the health sector and the growth of its services can also be shown through indicators: the rate of maternal mortality per 100,000 live births, the rate of births under the supervision of medical specialists, child mortality rates per 100,000 live births, and morbidity rates such as malaria. The above has been clarified for some of these indicators during the period (2005-2021) in the following table (6):

Table: 6, Some Indicators of the Growth of Health Sector Services in Iraq
for the period (2005-2021)

Years	Maternal Mortality Ratio per 100000 Live Births (%)	Percentage of Births under the Supervision of Medical Specialists (%)	Infant Mortality Rate (per 100000 Live Births)	Malaria Incidence Rates (One accident per 100000 Residents)
2005	86.1	82.0	44.0	0.03
2006	84.0	88.5	35.0	0.10
2007	-	-	-	1.01
2008	-	-	24.0	0.02
2009	-	-	-	0.00
2010	-	-	-	0.00
2011	-	90.9	32.0	0.00
2012	-	87.7	21.0	0.00
2013	35.0	91.5	17.3	0.00
2014	30.1	91.0	19.7	0.00
2015	32.0	95.5	18.1	0.00
2016	36.1	93.9	18.6	0.00
2017	31.0	93.7	14.0	0.00
2018	33.5	95.6	23.0	0.00
2019	31.5	90.1	19.6	0.00
2020	34.2	90.2	18.5	0.00
2021	46.1	96.0	17.8	0.00

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:

- Iraqi Ministry of Planning, Annual Statistical Group for the period (2005 – 2021), Central Bureau of Statistics, Directorate of National Accounts, various pages.

It is noted from Table (6) that the maternal mortality rates (per 100,000 live births) have decreased from 86.1% to 31% during the period (2005-2014), and then fluctuated between (31% - 46.1%) during the period (2015-2021), and the percentage of births that were carried out by medical specialists has increased from 82% to 96% during the period (2005-2021), during the same period, the infant mortality rate (per 100000 live births) has decreased from 44 cases to 17.8 cases, in addition to the incidence rates of malaria (per 100000) have disappeared to zero cases after 2009 to 2021, after it was between (0.02 – 1.01) cases during the period (2005-2008).

The above indicates that the gap in the provision of health services to the Iraqi society has decreased during the study period. This may be due to increasing health awareness among citizens and the work of medical staff with the available medical devices. The Iraqi health sector is not equipped with modern medical equipment, qualified and trained medical staff, and the introduction of modern medical technologies that increase the efficiency of this sector.

5. Obstacles: Targeting human development in Iraq has had a number of obstacles that hinder and hinder the achievement of the desired human development. The most important obstacles are as follows:

5. 1. Political and Security Obstacles: The state of instability of the political situation in Iraq after 2003 is prevalent. This situation has been accompanied by tensions that have been escalating in some countries, causing the deterioration of the reality of some service sectors such as education and health, as well as infrastructure such as electricity, water and public companies in Iraq, to reflect on the reality of human resources and their inability to develop their capabilities and potential, In addition to the deterioration of the development of its technical and information skills due to the preoccupation of the human element in Iraq with meeting the requirements of living and attempts to escape from areas experiencing security tensions, as well as the preoccupation of society with the political situation and its division between political opinions, as well as these tensions and instability reflected on the rates of implementation of the objectives of development plans and follow-up in the field of achieving human development and improving good levels of their indicators aimed at their advancement, accompanied by the absence of economic ideas that address the problems and challenges facing the Iraqi economy, due to the lack of agreement between the political forces in directing the programs of the Developmental towards goals that develop the capabilities of human forces.

5. 2. Obstacles resulting from the inefficient exploitation of economic and financial resources: Iraq obtains its financial and economic resources from the following sectors:

5. 2. 1. Oil sector: The Iraqi economy is one-sided and dependent on one side, crude oil. From the review of Table (7), the average percentage of relative importance of oil sector exports in the Iraqi economy during the period (2005-2022) was about 37.6% of GDP, with a compound growth of 9.2% in the same period, to show the extent of the Iraqi economy's dependence on financial and economic resources derived from the sale of crude oil, and the lack of efficient exploitation of these resources in favor of the development and improvement of human development indicators in Iraq.

Table: 7, The Relative Importance of Oil Sector Exports in the Iraqi Economy during the period (2005-2022)

Years	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total Crude Oil Exports (Billion Dinars)	34638	44459	49469	75786	45974	60336	92969	110012.2	104024.1	99551
Relative Importance (%) *	47.1	46.5	44.4	48.3	35.2	37.2	42.8	43.3	38	37.4
GDP (Billion Dinars)	73533	95587.95	111455.8	157026.1	130643.2	162064.6	217327.1	254225.5	273587.5	266332.7
Years	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Compound ed (%)	Average%
Total Crude Oil Exports (Billion Dinars)	57201.8	51562.3	70400.3	99068.9	92,818.91	49,689.64	109693.2	167574.5	9.2	.
Relative Importance (%) *	29.4	26.2	31.8	36.8	33.6	23.0	36.4	40.3	.	37.6
GDP (Billion Dinars)	194681	196924.1	221665.7	268918.9	276157.9	215661.5	301152.8	415628.5	10.1	.

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:

- Iraqi Ministry of Planning, Annual Statistical Group for the period (2005 – 2021), Central Bureau of Statistics, Directorate of National Accounts, various pages.

* The percentages in the table are from the researcher's extract.

5. 2. 2. Natural gas: This gas is one of the types of energy production used in the production of drinking water and electrical energy and in the field of heating in homes and vital institutions such as hospitals, schools and others. In 2018, Iraq's reserves ranked fifth in the Arab world, tenth in the Arab world (Ali, 410: 2024), as these reserves were estimated during the period (2015-2020) (3158 – 3714) billion cubic meters (GECF, 2021: 103), top up Iraq in the advanced world. Most of the natural gas production in Iraq has been linked to oil fields, so you can harness the production of natural gas and direct economic resources to sectors that support human development in Iraq and will help in the development of human elements. It is noted from Table (8) that the production of natural gas in Iraq during the period (2005 – 2022) was with fluctuating increases ranging from (13723 – 32699) million cubic meters, with a compound growth rate of 4.6%. During the same period, natural gas consumption fluctuated between (6979 – 16254) million cubic meters, with a compound growth of 4.7%. Free gas has also fluctuated between (6241 - 17714) million cubic meters, with a compound growth of 4.4%. The above is reflected in the relatively high average percentages of natural gas consumed in Iraq on the quantities produced from it, as the average in the studied period was 48.2%, and the average for the same period for the burned quantities of natural gas on the quantities produced from it was 51.9%, while the average investor of natural gas for the same period was 48%. The previous percentages indicate the volume of economic and financial resources for the quantities of natural gas production and investment in the development of sectors that support and promote education and health in Iraq, as it is possible to benefit from this vital resource in support of plans and strategies targeting human development in Iraq.

Table: 8, The Growth of Natural Gas Production, Consumption and Consumption and Investment in the Iraqi Economy for the period (2005 – 2022)

Items Years	Produced (Million Cubic Meters)	Consumed (Million Cubic Meters)	Flared (Million Cubic Meters)	Consumer/Pr oduced (%)*	Flared/ Produced (%)*	Investment (%)
2005	13723	7083	6640	51.6	48.4	52
2006	14152	6979	7173	49.3	50.7	49
2007	14370	7372	6998	51.3	48.7	51
2008	15516	9275	6241	59.8	40.2	60
2009	17520	10140	7380	57.9	42.1	58
2010	16887	9313	7574	55.1	44.9	55
2011	18692	8991	9701	48.1	51.9	48
2012	20496	8520	11976	41.6	58.4	42
2013	21386	8954	12432	41.9	58.1	42
2014	22364	8981	13383	40.2	59.8	40
2015	24513	8851	15662	36.1	63.9	36
2016	29326	11612	17714	39.6	60.4	40
2017	29870	13231	16639	44.3	55.7	44
2018	31358	14522	16834	46.3	53.7	46
2019	32699	15453	17258	47.3	52.8	47
2020	28738	14812	14173	51.5	49.3	52
2021	30275	15737	14548	52.0	48.1	52
2022	30730	16254	14476	52.9	47.1	52
Compound Growth Rate (%)*	4.6	4.7	4.4	-	-	-
Average	-	-	-	48.2	51.9	48

Source: Iraqi Ministry of Planning. (2023). Statistical Group for the year 2023, Central Bureau of Statistics, p. 744.

* The percentages in the table are from the researcher's extract.

5. 2. 3. Administrative and Financial Corruption: After 2003, Iraq occupies advanced ranks globally in the levels of corruption in some of its administrative and service institutions, including education and health institutions. According to the Corruption Perceptions Index issued by Transparency International, the phenomenon of corruption is widespread in some of these institutions in Iraq. It ranked 26 in 2005, with a corruption perception score of 2.8, The degree of corruption has continued to converge for the period (2010 – 2022), and the average score was about 2.6, with ranks between (25 – 27) at the level of the most corrupt countries globally (Transparency International, various years: separate pages). This corruption is reflected in the education and health sectors and the waste of resources allocated to the implementation of human development projects in Iraq, which led to low levels of targeting. The share of the education sector in GDP decreased by 3% in

2022. In the same year, the percentage decreased to 7% of the total general budget in Iraq (Iraqi Ministry of Planning, 2023: Separate pages) and (Iraqi general budget, 2022: Separate pages). The amount of money wasted in the health sector as a result of rampant corruption exceeded \$50 million, at a rate of more than 70%, which was allocated to the development of this sector (Attiyah, 2024: 101).

6. Processors: The existence of a number of obstacles requires the provision of treatments that seek to achieve acceptable levels of human development in Iraq, which are:

6. 1. Political and Security Stability: Before starting to target the development of any development indicator, including human development indicators in Iraq, it is necessary to target the improvement of the political and security situation to be the incubator and safe environment in which macroeconomic indicators in general and human development indicators in particular work, in a way that improves the rates of their development and development, as stability in the political and security aspect is a prerequisite for the effective work of local and foreign investment in the employment of the human element and the development of its skills and capabilities, and the introduction of modern technologies and techniques that work to achieve growth in human and economic development indicators.

6. 2. Raising the Productivity of the Human Element: This is done through seriousness in targeting human development indicators by strengthening skill, creativity and innovation and benefiting from the experience available in the country, working to qualify the human elements of the youth group and include them in courses and training that raise their levels of production and productivity. The above is done in the educational, health and economic sectors to raise the levels of service and livelihood in these sectors, to reflect in the end to diversify the sources of the Iraqi economy and increase financial resources and direct them in correct directions that benefit human development plans. It is possible to direct treatments to the following sectors:

6. 2. 1. Educational Sector: To improve the indicators of this sector by reducing dropout rates from education in general and primary education in particular, by granting financial and in-kind privileges to students, improving the conditions of educational buildings so that they are suitable for study and attractive to students, providing the educational sector with well-trained teaching cadres to deal with children and adolescents, competent in modern methods of education, and introducing them to courses that develop the teaching skill in a way that raises their educational and productive level and the ability to deal with students and their parents, as well as to exclude the lagging and corrupt teaching cadres from the educational sector in Iraq.

It is also necessary to establish new buildings of schools for different stages of teaching, equipped with modern equipment of technologies, computers and the Internet, and to train cadres on them and introduce them into the curricula in a theoretical and applied manner. There must be real coordination between the Ministries of Education with the bodies that work to employ the outputs of the educational sector in Iraq, in a way that raises the spirit of competition between students and graduates and provides them with a real motivation to persevere

and stay within the educational sector until they graduate and obtain guaranteed jobs in effective economic institutions that raise production and productivity levels.

6. 2. 2. Health Sector: Targeting health indicators is important in providing the necessities of a healthy life for the human element, which contributes effectively and efficiently to productive economic activities. Therefore, new hospitals and health centers must be established and old ones must be supported with medical devices. Monitoring and inspection programs on the work of medical devices and their staff must be activated in a way that ensures their work by providing health services to patients and visitors to hospitals and health centers, controlling the imported medicines and health supplies, and importing them from high quality international facilities. In order to ensure the entry of good quality medicines with guaranteed validity to preserve the public health of individuals and Iraqi society, some curricula and health awareness programs have been developed for students in the educational sector in order to raise the level of health awareness of these students and make them a medium for transferring them to their family members and their children in the future. Local and foreign investment in the establishment of health institutions and the introduction of modern devices for the health sector must be encouraged in order to promote and develop it. Also, the currently available health cadres must be included in courses and training on the latest technologies and modern devices in the health sector in order to improve the health services provided, and return must be encouraged. For health and medical cadres who migrated outside Iraq, the door was opened for the entry of foreign cadres into Iraq, which leads to raising the efficiency of the work of hospitals and health centers.

6. 2. 3. Improving the Standard of Living of Workers in the Health and Education Sectors: Improving the standard of living of health, medical and educational cadres must be among the goals of human development in Iraq, and reducing the disparity in the distribution of income among the groups of Iraqi society, so it is possible to provide good loans to these cadres and to the private sector in order to alleviate poverty and generate new job opportunities for young people wishing to work in the two sectors targeted for development in them, it is possible to work To transform the incomes of the rich groups in favor of the lowest income groups through the development of a progressive tax system targeting the rich that is distributed fairly to other groups by strengthening the services of the health and education sectors, as well as activating health and educational insurance for the children of the poor, the unemployed and the marginalized from Iraqi society. It is necessary to provide job opportunities for young graduates from the specialties of the health and education sectors in a way that reduces unemployment rates. It is also necessary to permanently eliminate forms of administrative and financial corruption in the institutions of the health and education sectors and among their cadres, in order to increase the efficiency of the sectors in providing services and ensure that the target groups have access to health and education services, and to ensure that financial and economic resources are not wasted in spending Wasteful, which reduces the loss of people's money and their efficiency in obtaining services that increase their development and increase their productivity.

7. Conclusions and Recommendations

7. 1. Conclusions:

- 1- Targeting human development indicators in Iraq is an important and vital matter that supports the economy and its development by providing efficient human resources with a high level of education and health. Therefore, human development goals must proceed according to clear contextual plans and be implemented efficiently and through real follow-up and control of these goals, ensuring that only human development goals are construction plans and ink on paper that do not see the light on the ground, which leads to the deterioration of human development levels and the distortion of its indicators, resulting in low human resources in the contribution rates in the economic sectors.
- 2- The existence of a clean environment free of corruption and the provision of appropriate economic and political conditions is an important matter that achieves high levels of human development in Iraq, ensuring the treatment of obstacles that may deviate from the results of targeting human development in its desired direction and in the rates of implementation of its goals. During the period of the study, human development faced obstacles that hindered the achievement of human development for the health and education sectors, which kept their services below standard, making it possible to achieve their development goals through the relatively low level of services of the two sectors in Iraq.
- 3- The pursuit of human development in Iraq was limited to the existence of errors and corruption in some health and educational institutions, which made the gap widen between the indicators of human development and the actual reality on the ground in Iraq, leading to the failure to achieve the desired goals and improve the reality of the insistence of human society in Iraq.
- 4- Striving to improve and provide services to the education and health sectors in Iraq is one of the most important goals to achieve human development, as these services achieve high and efficient levels in the exploitation of economic and financial resources in Iraq.
- 5- Human development in Iraq is targeted through achieving social and economic justice, which works to sense the social and productive reality of individuals, which increases their importance in managing production processes and increasing production levels in various economic sectors.

7. 2. Recommendations:

- 1- The need to set clear goals to target human development in Iraq within sustainable development plans and strategies, and to follow up their implementation in a real way by activating the role of supervisory bodies, and accountability for shortcomings in the implementation process through an effective and active judicial system.
- 2- The need to benefit from the opportunities for the expertise of human elements in Iraq with the skill and ability to operate the productive economic sectors such as industry and agriculture, and to activate the leading role of these elements in order to reach development that raises the importance of the Iraqi economy.
- 3- The huge financial and economic resources derived from the extractive sector in Iraq must be exploited and used to achieve the desired human development .
- 4- Activating the role of researchers and scholars for indicators of human development and activating it through their contribution to the preparation and preparation of human development plans in Iraq and its six goals, and it is necessary to support universities in holding local and international conferences and seminars interested in achieving human development in Iraq , in order to develop recommendations and address the problems and obstacles facing the targets of this development.
- 5- There must be a real direction for financial and economic resources to invest (locally and abroad) in the aspects that achieve human development in Iraq by targeting the education and health sectors, and this is done within a supportive legislative and legal framework to reach the desired goal of human development.

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