

United Nations Development Group UNDAF Trust Fund
Project #82895: P1-04
Date and Quarter: 01 October to 31 December 2012 - 4th Quarter 2012

Participating UN Organisation: UNDP	Priority Area: Governance and Human Rights
Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry:	The Iraqi Commission of Integrity

Title	Enhancing Transparent Participatory Governance and Human Rights				
Geo. Location	Nationwide				
Project Cost	USD 3,091,526 ¹ in two tranche. Project presently received tranche one for USD 1,574,585				
Duration	24 months				
Approval Date (SC)	5 April 2012	Starting Date	16 May 2012	Completion Date	16 May 2014
Project Description	UNDP in close consultation with national counterparts will undertake a series of interlinked and complementary interventions within a programmatic framework that aims to promote transparent participatory governance and strengthen human rights in Iraq. The framework has four outputs focusing on strengthening human rights and transparency through participatory governance mechanisms. First, to support the mandate and organizational structure of the Human Rights Commission, including the establishment of sub-national commissions. Second, to provide long term institutional development of the Human Rights Commission and its outreach capabilities through participatory governance mechanisms. Third, combat corruption through the promotion of accountability, integrity and transparency at all levels of government and civil society. This involves support to the roll-out of the Government of Iraq’s National Anti-Corruption Strategy, to strengthen the capacities of key parliamentary committees, to address corruption issues, to enhance engagement of civil society organisations and media in addressing corruption and to provide technical support for the establishment of a new KRG Commission of Integrity and KRG Board of Supreme Audit. Fourth, to utilise civil society organisations to promote participatory and transparent governance which includes financial and technical support to civil society organisations to enhance their engagement with parliament.				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

UNDAF: Priority 1	Improved Governance, including the protection of human rights. Priority Outcome 1.4 The Iraqi State has more efficient, accountable and participatory governance at national and sub-national levels.
UNDP CPAP: Outcome 3	Strengthened regulatory frameworks, institutions and processes in place for accountable, transparent and participatory governance at national and local levels.
Output 1:	The Iraq Human Rights Commission has enhanced capacity to execute its mandate.
Output 2:	Iraq has a national platform for an expanded human rights dialogue.
Output 3:	The Iraqi state is able to promote and undertake governance process in an accountable and transparent manner.
Output 4:	Civil society organisations have enhanced capacity to engage with parliament and relevant parliamentary committees on policy issues.

¹ Funding for the project will be through two tranche. The total amount committed to this project by the UNDAF Trust Fund is USD 3,091,526. The first tranche has been released in the amount of USD 1,574,585 which is reflecting in the table below until the remaining second tranche is received by UNDP. At the time of receipt of the second tranche for the amount of USD 1,516,941 this section will be adapted to reflect full project funds.

Outputs, Key Activities and Procurement

Note: Activities are in relation to section 4 page 10 of the project document

Output 1	1. The Iraq Human Rights Commission has enhanced capacity to execute its mandate.
Activities	1.1 The Iraq High Commission for Human Rights has the organisational structure to function effectively. 1.2 The Iraq High Commission for Human Rights has technically competent staff 1.3 Subnational Iraq High Commission for Human Rights entities established.
Output 2	2. Iraq has a national platform for an expanded human rights dialogue.
Activities	2.6 A national dialogue on human rights supported. 2.7 Awareness raised on human rights issues and ways to protect these rights 2.8 The Iraq High Commission for Human Rights capacity to reach out and clarify work and mandate enhanced.
Output 3	3. The Iraqi state is able to promote and undertake governance process in an accountable and transparent manner.
Activities	3.4 The CoR capacity in undertaking accountability oversight functions increased 3.5 The KRG plans for a Commission of Integrity in place. 3.6 The KRG's Board of Supreme Audit capacity enhanced. 3.7 An investigative journalism curriculum developed and in place.
Output 4	4. Civil society organisations have enhanced capacity to engage with parliament and relevant parliamentary committees on policy issues.
Activities	4.6 Iraqi CSOs and independent media capacity to hold the government to account in the areas of human rights, corruption and service delivery strengthened. 4.7 Interface between relevant parliamentary committees and CSOs on issues of human rights, corruption and service delivery enhanced. 4.8a Advocacy and awareness-raising on corruption issues enhanced. 4.8b Implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy through partnership with CSOs and independent media implemented. 4.9 Donor coordination on civil society issues in Iraq enhanced.
Procurement	

Funds Committed in 1st Tranche	USD 193,804	% of received 1st tranche (USD 1,574,585)	12.3%
Funds Disbursed in 1st Tranche	USD 45,805	% of received 1st tranche (USD 1,574,585)	2.9%
Forecast final date	June 2014	Delay (months)	0

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results

Output 1 The Iraq Human Rights Commission has enhanced capacity to execute its mandate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP organised a workshop in August 2012 with experts from South Africa, Morocco, Iraq Council of Representatives and UNOHCHR to facilitate and assist the establishment of the organisational structure of the Commission. A workshop was organised in Egypt, targeting 14 participants out of which 8 Human Rights Commissioners, and 6 COR Human Rights Committee members and KRG Human Rights Board members, in December 2012. UNDP supported the preparation of the US\$ 4 Million budget of the Commission for the year 2012, and the US\$ 26 Million budget for the year 2013. The two budgets are approved by the Council of Representatives. 	20%
Output 2 Iraq has a national platform for an expanded human rights dialogue.	Discussion with the CSO component of the project has led to the initiation of a small grants scheme to fund Human Rights activities.	10%

Output 3 The Iraqi state is able to promote and undertake governance process in an accountable and transparent manner.	3.4 The CoR capacity in undertaking accountability oversight functions has increased. 3.5 The KRG has plans for a Commission of Integrity in place. 3.6 The KRG's Board of Supreme Audit capacity has been enhanced. 3.7 An investigative journalism curriculum has been developed and is in place.	20%
Output 4 Civil society organisations have enhanced capacity to engage with parliament and relevant parliamentary committees on policy issues.	4.6 Iraqi CSOs and independent media capacity to hold the government to account in the areas of human rights, corruption and service delivery have been strengthened.	10%
	4.7 Interface between relevant parliamentary committees and CSOs on issues of human rights, corruption and service delivery has been enhanced.	15%
	4.9 Donor coordination on civil society issues in Iraq has been enhanced.	15%

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results

Output 1: The Iraq Human Rights Commission has enhanced capacity to execute its mandate.

- UNDP organized a workshop with experts from South Africa, Morocco, Iraq Council of Representatives and UNOHCHR to facilitate and assist the establishment of the organisational structure of the Commission.
- This workshop resulted in the structure of the Iraq High Commission for Human Rights at the Federal and Governorate levels being adopted.
- Vision and Mission Statements were adopted by Commissioners.
- The Government of Iraq allocated 4 billion ID for the 2012 budget of the Iraq High Commission for Human Rights.
- Two experts were mobilized; a financial expert and an administrative expert who supported and facilitated the 2012 allocation and prepared a budget for 2013.
- A draft regulatory framework is currently under discussion by Commissioners.
- A draft strategic action-plan is under discussion by Commissioners.
- Two UNDP staff and two UNAMI HRO staff provide continuous support to the Commissioners and facilitate regular meetings.
- During the Q4 reporting period, UNDP supported the participation of one Human Rights Commissioners, one CoR Human Rights member and one representative from the Ministry of Human Rights to attend a UNDP Governance Week in Cairo. The Ministry of Human Rights presented a briefing on the Universal Periodical Report.
- During the reporting period, a workshop was organised in Egypt targeting 14 Human Rights Commissioners, COR Human Rights Committee members and KRG Human Rights Board members. The objectives of the workshop were:
 - To provide practical support and training in identified support areas to the Iraqi Independent High Commission for Human Rights Board of Commissioners (BoC);
 - To develop an understanding of working within a framework of consensus;
 - To introduce practical aspects of the protection mandate through exploring and understanding the different types and nature of detention monitoring; how to conduct such monitoring visits; the role of national institutions in the protection of human rights defenders and the holding of public inquiries;
 - To introduce practical aspects of the promotion mandate, identify the different areas of advocacy and in particular to develop an understanding on drafting legislative submissions and monitoring recommendations;
 - To develop an understanding of the challenges connected with prioritizing key human rights issues;

- To develop an understanding of the importance of and practical aspects of mainstreaming international human rights into all aspects of the Commission's work.
- A decision was made that the Commission will have institutionalized consultations with civil society and other Human Rights institutions.
- UNDP facilitated the membership of the Iraqi Human Rights Commission to the Arab Human Rights National Institution. Through this membership, Iraq will substantively contribute the work of similar Arab Human Rights Institutions. The Commission will also contribute to the promotion of human rights in the region through reporting, follow up meetings, workshops and trainings.
- UNDP continued to provide support to develop budgets and establish the Financial Office of the Human Rights Commission. The UNDP financial expert developed a budget for the year 2012 and the year 2013 with the assignment successfully completed. The Council of Representatives approved a 2012 total budget of \$ 4 million and a 2013 budget of \$ 26 million. The Financial Department within the Commission has advertised posts and recruitment of core financial staff is on-going.

Output 2: Iraq has a national platform for an expanded human rights dialogue.

- Discussion and coordination with the CSO component of the project has led to the initiation of a small grant scheme for CSOs to promote human rights. It is anticipated that the grant scheme for CSOs will be disbursed through an MOU with UNAMI HRO.

Output 3: The Iraqi state is able to promote and undertake governance process in an accountable and transparent manner.

- Developed TORs and technical evaluation has been conducted for the establishment of the KRG Commission of Integrity.
- Multiple high level meetings were held during the quarter which included:
 - Prime Minister's Office KRG
 - Chief Justice
 - Council of High Judiciary
 - Ministry of Justice
 - Head of Kurdistan Parliament.
- These meetings resulted in a decision to define what is required to establish a Commission of Integrity and who will do what within the KRG.
- Based on the meetings in the quarter, a senior consultant was recruited to focus on the subject of a Commission of Integrity in the KRG supported by UNDP technical staff.
- A comparative analysis was completed on KRG Commission of Integrity Law 3/2012 and two laws at the Federal level: Commission of Integrity Law 30/2011 and CPA 55/2004.
- Recommendations were provided based on the strengths and weaknesses for the establishment of a KRG Commission of Integrity.
- Bi-laws, internal policies and a structure for the Commission of Integrity have been developed and proposed to the KRG. Full scale discussions with relevant institutions (Ministry of Justice, Judiciary, Parliament and CSOs/NGOs) are to planned for the next quarter .
- An initial framework for commissioning investigative work in line with KRG Law 3/2012 has been proposed.
- UNDP initiated planning and dialogue for a workshop to be held 1st Quarter 2013 to discuss the proposals relevant to the establishment of a Commission of Integrity in KRG.
- Multiple meetings were held with the Prime Minister's Office and the Kurdistan Board of Supreme Audit with commitments made to work with UNDP to develop a framework.
- TORs for the needs assessment task for the KRG Board of Supreme Audit have been developed.
- During the quarter, it was decided that a working group of supreme audit institutions will be nominated and which international standards will be aligned to KBSA.

- Opened dialogue with the National Audit Office (NAO) of the UK, which is the system most closely aligned to the KBSA.
- TORs have been developed for support to the Parliament Integrity and Legal Committees related to financial and administrative support.
- Discussions are underway with Baghdad University/ Media College to develop a curriculum and training on investigative journalism.
- Recruitment is underway to hire someone to develop a curriculum and provide training on investigative journalism anticipated to initiate early 2013.

Output 4: Civil society organisations have enhanced capacity to engage with parliament and relevant parliamentary committees on policy issues.

- Recruited a campaign manager for an Awareness Raising Campaign on the National Anti-Corruption Strategy.
- Defined criteria for future trainers.
- Training materials and the training programme are under development for the anti-corruption campaign.
- Implementation is anticipated early 2013 to conduct anti-corruption training in 96 different sessions.
- The first CSO evaluation phase (the pre-qualification phase) has been finalized with 25 CSO applications retained out of 54 received. The Grant Selection Committee evaluating the proposals was comprised by UNDP and UNOPS staff and counted with a representative from the CSO parliamentary Committee as an observer.
- The 25 pre-qualified CSOs attended the preparatory CSO Grants Guidelines workshop that was held on 8 November 2012 at the Parliament. This workshop led to the finalization of the Guidelines based on the feedback obtained from the CSOs. Participants appreciated the open consultation process and learning opportunity.
- The second CSO evaluation phase (the concept note phase) has been finalized with 15 Concept Notes retained out of 23 received. The Grant Selection Committee found that the general application quality was satisfactory, although it confirmed the need for further CSO capacity building efforts. In total, 15 CSO Consortia are running for the grant award (with a total of 53 CSOs involved in these consortia), with an even geographic coverage of Iraq and balanced distribution over the three thematic areas, including gender focused projects.
- The third CSO evaluation phase (the project proposal phase) was initiated with 15 CSO consortia preparing for submission on 3 February 2013. Coaching activities were initiated in January 2013.
- The contracting of technical assistance support to CSO project proposal development and project implementation was finalized with the firm CLIC Inc. (Canadian-Lebanese partnership being awarded the job). Work was initiated with administrative support to the Concept Note evaluation process and preparations for the CSO project proposal coaching and CSO capacity assessment.
- A Request for Proposals for monitoring services for CSO project implementation has been issued, the company will be awarded early 2013.
- The first Project Board meeting took place in Baghdad on 5 December 2013, with the attendance of UNDP Country Director, a representative of the CSO parliamentary Committee and other relevant UNDP staff. The progress made in 2012 and plans for 2013 were appreciated and approved by the Board without major comments.
- An informal Advisory Committee regrouping main donors (Denmark, Norway and Sweden) engaged in supporting Civil Society in Iraq has been formed and met for the second time in December. The EU has also expressed interest in joining this donor coordination mechanism in the future.