

**United Nations Development Group UNDAF Trust Fund
Project #82895: P1-04
Date and Quarter: 01 Jan – Mar 2013 – 1st Quarter 2013**

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.

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.

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.

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	USD 689,967.65	% of 1st tranche funds (USD 1,574,585)	43.81%
Funds Disbursed	USD 320,748.20	% of 1st tranche funds (USD 1,574,585)	20.37%
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.	Joint needs assessment mission undertaken by UNDP, UNAMI HRO and OHCHR to assess the capacity needs for the commissioners. Ongoing support to finalize the functions of the Offices within the commission and develop ToRs for core staff. Networking with Arab National Human Rights Institutions initiated. This step will facilitate the membership of the IHCHR as first step for commission regional accreditation.	40%
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. Recruitment of communication expert is processed. The expert will support the development of the communication strategy for the COR Human Rights Committee and the IHCHR. The strategy will serve as an outreach mechanism for the COR Committee and the IHCHR and assist meaningful engagement with all human rights actors.	20%
Output 3 The Iraqi state is able to promote and undertake governance process in an accountable and transparent manner.	The CoR capacity in undertaking accountability oversight functions has increased. The KRG has plans for a Commission of Integrity in place. The KRG's Board of Supreme Audit capacity has been enhanced. An investigative journalism curriculum has been developed and is in place.	30%
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.	15%
	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.	25%

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results

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

- UNDP, UNAMI HRO and OHCHR Documentation and Training Center for South West Asia and Arab Region conducted a needs assessment of the IHCHR from 16-21 March 2013. The scope of work of the assessment mission was to outline long-term capacity building and institutional development to the Iraqi National Human Rights Institution (2013-14), identify gaps and define the support to allow the Commission to efficiently and effectively assume its role and performs its duties. The mission identified the following:
- The training and capacity strengthening needs within the Commission and its immediate non-governmental partners, e.g. leadership of the Commission, its core staff, etc.
- The technical support relating to the development of appropriate strategies for public outreach and institutional development. In doing so UNDP already processed the recruitment of the Administrative Expert to develop Role and responsibilities of the

complaints, investigation, monitoring and reporting and legal offices. Plus, the Terms of References for the core staff of the offices. It is expected that the expert will report to Baghdad 1 May 2013.

- UNDP facilitated communications between the IHCHR, Palestinian, Moroccan and Qatar Human Rights Commissions as a first step to assist the membership of the IHCHR to the Arab Region Human Rights Institutions. It is expected that IHCHR will organise a meeting in Baghdad inviting members of regional commission to discuss the accreditation of the IHCHR by the Arab region network. This step will contribute positively on strengthen the independence of the IHCHR.
- Technical advisory support provided to the BoC to identify 12 thematic areas of work. UNDP also supported the distribution and the appointment of commissioners as per the thematic areas. Each thematic area will be led by one commissioner and membership of additional two. This approach of having more than one commissioner for each thematic area will ensure an inclusive participation and contribution to the work of the BoC. Adopting this approach will reduce the politicization of work of the commission.

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

- UNDP finalized the modality for the disbursement of small Grants for CSOs to promote human rights through organising trainings, awareness campaigns and the development of promotional materials. Grants will be disbursed through a call for proposal that will be managed directly by UNDP. It is expected that call for proposals for CSOs will be launch during the Q2 2013.
- UNDP is processing recruitment of the communication expert to support the development of two communication strategies for COR Human Rights Committee and the IHCHR. The objective of this strategy is to institutionalize the outreach of the two institutions and strengthen their interaction with CSOs and other human rights actors.

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

- A workshop was conducted 29-31 January 2013 to discuss the Law to establish a KRG Commission of Integrity. The workshop had two themes: 1) the comparative study and proposed structure of a KRG Commission of Integrity and 2) identify the needs of the judicial and prosecution. The following was discussed during the workshop:
 - Analysis of Law 3/2011 to establish a KRG Commission of Integrity
 - Four areas were discussed which included the (i) role and creation of the Commission of Integrity in the KRG; (ii) tasks and powers of the Commission of Integrity in the KRG; (iii) bodies of the Commission of Integrity in the KRG; and (iv) investigation.
 - It was recommended that the bi-law provision of KRG 3/2011 could be utilized in a similar way to COI Law in Baghdad in which the structure, objectives and articles could further define the KRG Commission of Integrity.
 - This analysis is available in both Arabic and English.
 - Legal framework that governs the Judiciary
 - There were extensive discussions in this component of the workshop. Several issues were raised regarding transparency and accountability which resulted in a recommendation to review the present framework. Of mention were the topics regarding independence of judges, separation of power and increased

transparency including spokespersons access to public documents. This section of the meeting resulted in 42 recommendations.

- Public Prosecution System
- The general consensus of those in attendance was that the present system is outdated and there are overlaps and gaps. It was expressed that public prosecution should be a clear mechanism to undertake duties with increased independence and protection to carry out the work. Those in attendance advocated that a new law be considered.
- A workshop report is available in English.
- A Needs Assessment and capacity building plans of the KRG Board of Supreme Audit were initiated 1st Quarter 2013.
 - The inception report set out an approach and methodology to be adopted in carrying out the assessment. This included founding principles, pre-requisites and fundamental principles of public sector audit set by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions as a baseline against which the current status, performance and activities of the KRG-BAS would be assessed.
 - By the end of 1st Quarter 2013 the review of documents were reviewed.
 - By the end of 1st Quarter 2013 the discussions with the KRG-BSA management and staff was underway.
 - Findings will be based on seven (7) core areas: (i) legal framework; (ii) independence; (iii) governance structure and organisation; (iv) human resources; (v) physical resources; (vi) audit methods and (vii) external relations.
 - The Needs Assessment anticipated to be published April 2013 in English.
- A workshop was conducted 25-26 March 2013 on Investigative Journalism.
 - The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the development of a curriculum and training on investigative journalism.
 - This involved Baghdad University Media College and the Commission of Integrity.
 - It was decided that the technical curriculum on Investigative Journalism would be at the Anti-Corruption Academy.
 - It was decided that the academic curriculum on Investigative Journalism would be at the University of Baghdad Media College and other Iraqi Universities.
 - Thus the decision to establish Investigative Journalism was made and will move forward in 2nd Quarter.
- A Technical evaluation was conducted for the establishment of the KRG Commission of Integrity 4th Quarter 2012.
- Multiple high level meetings were held during 4th Quarter 2012 which included:
 - Prime Minister's Office KRG
 - Chief Justice
 - Council of High Judiciary
 - Ministry of Justice
 - Head of Kurdistan Parliament.
- 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 4th Quarter 2012.
- An initial framework for commissioning investigative work in line with KRG Law 3/2012 has been proposed 4th Quarter 2012.
- TORs for the needs assessment task for the KRG Board of Supreme Audit have been

developed 4th Quarter 2012.

- During 4th Quarter 2012, it was decided that a working group of supreme audit institutions would be nominated and which international standards will be aligned to KBSA. Dialogue opened 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.

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

- The National Anti-Corruption Campaign was launched on 16 February 2013 and will continue in all Governorates outside the Kurdistan Region until November 2013. The Campaign is a series of 96 workshops in which those attending are introduced to corruption issues and over the course of the day are introduced to types of corruption and their effect, accountability, citizen participation and how to report suspected corruption.
 - Training of Trainers was conducted in 1st Quarter 2013.
 - The launch had planned for attendance of 30 persons in each location or 480 persons. However, it was found that interest is high in every governorate as 571 persons (151 female; 420 male) attended, an increase of 19%.
 - Media reported and found interest in the Campaign. The Anti-Corruption Campaign launch was well covered by the media, with coverage by 11 radio stations, 14 newspapers and 53 television channels.
 - At the end of first Quarter 2013, 32 Workshops were conducted attended by 1,071 persons (291 female; 780 male). Recommendations and questions are coming forward from citizens including; the need to intensify the anti-corruption campaign and building a solid social system based on anti-corruption, developing capacities of CSOs on anti-corruption issues and the need to pass laws to eliminate corruption.
- An extensive CSO Capacity Assessment and Mapping exercise took during first Quarter 2013. The assessment was done on 15 CSO consortia (represented by 54 individual CSOs assessed). Two parallel methodologies were applied, one using a self-assessment tool and a second one using a capacity questionnaire. This assessment will help build adequate technical tools to work with CSOs under this project.
- The third CSO evaluation phase (the project proposal phase) was completed with the CSO Grant Selection Committee selecting 9 CSO consortia out of 15 final applicants as “conditionally approved” to enter into contracting negotiations. The overall quality of project proposals required further improvements by the consortia before the grant could be confirmed. UNDP has provided direct training and coaching to the CSOs to support them in the finalization of their proposals.
- Technical work has been done on the launch of a call for proposals for small CSO grants for human rights and oversight mechanism projects for local NGOs. Topics to be covered are Human Rights awareness raising, trainings and production of educational materials, as well as the promotion of the work of the Human Rights Commission and Human Rights Committee. In addition, small CSO grants that will support interventions related to civil society led oversight mechanisms to address issues related to corruption, transparency and accountability have also been discussed. This activity is designed by

drawing from the experience of the parallel UNDP project “Empowering CSOs in Iraq” and from maximizing synergies and lessons learned.

- Preliminary discussions with the UNAMI Human Rights Office have taken place to plan their support for monitoring CSO grant implementation project. The establishment of the monitoring mechanism will also benefit from the parallel monitoring and knowledge building work that the consultancy firm Stars Orbit is doing under the parallel UNDP project “Empowering CSOs in Iraq”.
- A coordination meeting of implementing partners on civil society empowerment projects in Iraq took place late March at UNDP’s initiative. Attendees were USAID, the EU, UNOPS and UNDP. It was decided to keep this coordination mechanism at an informal level and on a quarterly base. This mechanism adds an implementation perspective to the already established Advisory Committee for Nordic donors.