

**Iraq UNDAF Fund**  
**Joint Programme/Project: 79817/P3-01**  
**Date and Quarter Updated: 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013–Mar 2013 (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013)**

**Participating UN Organization:** UNDP (lead) **Priority Area:** Environment  
UNESCO, UNEP and FAO

**Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry:** PMAC and Ministry of Environment

<b>Title of JP/Project</b>	Development of National Framework for Integrated Drought Risk Management (DRM) in Iraq				
<b>Geo. Location</b>	Nationwide				
<b>JP/Project Cost</b>	UNDAF Trust Fund USD 759,884 UNDP USD 264,883.0 UNESCO USD 215,001.0 UNEP: USD 140,000 FAO: USD 140,000  USD 150,000 In kind ‘personnel’ costs from UNDP, UNESCO, and FAO <b>Total: USD 909,884</b>				
<b>Duration</b>	9 months + 19 months extension				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	14 June 2011	<b>Starting Date</b>	30 August 2011	<b>Completion Date</b>	30 May 2012, extended to 31 July 2013 UNESCO and UNDP - 31 December 2013 UNEP and FAO
<b>JP/Project Description</b>	<p>Recent severe drought has far-reaching impacts on Iraq’s economy, social and environmental conditions. Given its frequent occurrence in Iraq and its negative impact thus far, it is viewed as a slow-onset disaster that requires short, mid and long-term strategic interventions. Recognizing the urgency of this situation, the Government has called on the United Nations to provide support in formulating a framework for national drought risk management.</p> <p>UNDP and UNESCO will jointly implement the proposed programme in close consultation with other UN partners. It will support the Government of Iraq (GoI) to conduct a series of technical assessments of existing Disaster Risk Management (DRM) capacities and vulnerabilities, and carry out a series of consultations and consensus-building activities to build a common understanding of drought impacts and risk management measures. Activity includes the GoI to expose international good DRM practices and mapping exercises.</p> <p>These activities will form the foundation of development of the national framework for integrated Drought Risk Management in Iraq that will enable the GoI and its partners to launch a coordinated multidisciplinary, multi-sectoral, and multi-level response to drought.</p> <p>The proposed national DRM framework will be reviewed and discussed by all key stakeholders through validation workshops to secure programmatic support for drought risk management in Iraq.</p>				

**UNDAF Priority Area Outcome:**

Environmental management and compliance with actions taken on ratified international environmental treaties and obligations

Relevant NDP Goal(s): Section 10.2.5.

Goal 2: Monitoring the Environmental Status

Goal 6: Environmental Awareness

Goal 8: Developing and Building Environmental Capacities

Relevant UNDP Country Programme and CPAP Outcome

1. GoI has the institutional framework to develop and implement MDG-based pro-poor, equitable and inclusive socio-economic and environmental policies and strategies.
2. Comprehensive strategic frameworks at national and sub-national levels for disaster risk reduction developed.

**Outputs, Key activities and Procurement****Outputs**

1. Government of Iraq and relevant stakeholders have improved knowledge and common understanding on Drought Risk Management.
  2. Iraq has a participatory, comprehensive, and inclusive national framework for Drought Risk Management in line with international good practice.
  - 3: National partners have enhanced understanding and knowledge on the causes and trends of sand/dust storm affecting Iraq
  - 4: Development of national programme to monitor, combat and mitigate dust/sand storms and enhance regional cooperation.
- UNEP and FAO will implement part of outputs 3 and 4 through Q3 and Q4

**Activities**

**Output 1** –*Government of Iraq and relevant stakeholders have improved knowledge and common understanding in Drought Risk Management*

- 1.1. **Research/Study**–Mapping of relevant stakeholders and their respective mandates and initiatives; existing laws, policies, and programmes; review of Iraq’s progress and status with regard to relevant international and cross border DRM agreements; identifying DRM tools and mechanisms in place; identifying the specific impacts of drought by agricultural, environmental and water sectors.
- 1.2. **Consultation and Consensus-Building**–Continuous efforts to support the development of a consensus on the definition and causal and cross-sectoral linkages of drought, and on appropriate approaches to DRM

**Output 2**–*Iraq has a participatory, comprehensive and inclusive national framework for Drought Risk Management in line with international good practice.*

- 2.1. **Technical Assessment and Consultation**–Conducting vulnerability assessment of drought impacts by agriculture, environmental and water sectors with a focus on gender sensitivity aspects and identifying appropriate risk reduction approaches to DRM by various GoI institutions and bodies, and of the importance of a DRM framework to many development issues in Iraq.

	<p>2.2. <b>Technical Planning Assistance</b> – Provision of guidance by technical specialists on different aspects of DRM framework formulation, including exposing Iraqi partners to international DRM frameworks, tools, and techniques.</p> <p><b>Output 3-</b> <i>National partners have enhanced understanding and knowledge on the causes and trends of sand/dust storm affecting Iraq</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing compendium of land use and agriculture practices</li> <li>• Mapping of areas of highest potential sources for dust/sand storms (hot spots and sensitive areas)</li> <li>• Identify data/information and capacity gaps and recommend appropriate measures</li> <li>• Analyse trends of dust/sand storms based on historical observational data to the extent possible</li> <li>• Cross-reference results of the above in terms of frequency, intensity and transportation paths with results of output</li> <li>• To the extent possible, develop climate models to predict future frequency and intensity of the dust/sand storms</li> <li>• Suggest elements of national early warning system on dust storm, procure small sample of measurement instruments</li> </ul> <p><b>Output 4-</b> <i>Development of national programme to monitor, combat and mitigate dust/sand storms and enhance regional cooperation.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholder analysis and institutional mapping</li> <li>• Suggest institutional mechanism to address dust/sand storms</li> <li>• Develop the logical framework for the action plan highlighting causes, impacts and responses</li> <li>• Describe the major components of the programme and their ultimate results Suggest implementation arrangement for the programme with estimation of capacities and resources needed</li> </ul> <p><b>UNEP and FAO will implement Outputs 3 and 4 through Q3 &amp; Q4</b></p>
<p><b>Procurement (major items)</b></p>	<p>UNDP: (1) Services of national senior field coordinator; (2) Capacity assessment for drought risk management; (3) Vulnerability assessment study; (4) International consultant to draft the DRM framework.</p> <p>UNESCO: (1) Contract for preparing a document on international and regional best practices in drought management (prediction, preparedness and mitigation); (2) Desk review and Mapping of agricultural, meteorological, environmental, and economical data.</p> <p>UNEP: 1) contract with international and national consultants to undertake the mapping and programme development, 2) contract with collaborating centre to assist with the identification of hot spots and integration of ecosystem-based design of mitigation interventions</p> <p>NB: no procurement of equipment will take place since Iraq already purchasing monitoring instruments from its own resources based on WMO-UNEP advise on standards</p>

<b>Funds Committed</b>	UNDP:	USD 208,466	<b>% of approved</b>	78.7%
	UNESCO:	USD 119, 813		55.74%
	UNEP:	USD140,000		0%
	FAO:	USD140,000		0%
<b>Funds Disbursed UNDP</b>	UNDP:	USD 56,387	<b>% of approved</b>	21.3 %
	UNESCO:	USD 100,151		46.58%
	UNEP:	USD 0		0%
	FAO:	USD 0		0%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	December 31, 2013		<b>Delay (months)</b>	19 months

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men	Total population	
Women	Total population	
Children	Total population	
IDPs	Total population	
Others	Total population	
Indirect beneficiaries	Total population	
Employment generation (men/women)	n/a	

Quantitative achievements against JP outputs/ UN Organization outputs		
UNDAF Environmental management and compliance with actions taken on ratified international environmental treaties and obligations		
Output 1. Government of Iraq and relevant stakeholders has improved knowledge and common understanding on Drought Risk Management.	UNDP: 66%	UNESCO: 60%
Output 2. Iraq has a participatory, comprehensive, and inclusive national framework for Drought Risk Management in line with international good practice.	UNDP: 34%	UNESCO: 40%
Output 3. National partners have enhanced understanding and knowledge on the causes and trends of sand/dust storm affecting Iraq	0%	
Output 4. Development of national programme to monitor, combat and mitigate dust/sand storms and enhance regional cooperation.	0%	

Qualitative achievements against JP outputs/ UN Organization outputs	
Output 1. Government of Iraq and relevant stakeholders have improved knowledge and common understanding on Drought Risk Management.	
1.1 <b>Research / Study</b> – Mapping of relevant stakeholders and their respective mandates and initiatives; taking stock of existing laws, policies, and programmes; review of Iraq’s progress and status with regard to relevant international and cross border DRM agreements; identifying DRM tools and mechanisms in place;	<p>UNESCO has continued data collection in preparation of the desk review and mapping exercise (by IAU). Towards the end of the reporting period most of the data resulting from UNESCO’s efforts was provided for analysis and processing by IAU. The screening of the data and its validation by UNESCO’s SC is still ongoing and will be completed on time, i.e. towards the end of May 2013.</p> <p>Additional information, which was collected from KRG relevant institutional responsibilities of Central Government/KRG, complements these efforts. Information collected–inter alia - includes further observation wells, geo-statistical data on water resources and utilities (WatSan). During a field mission to Erbil (Mar 31–Apr 04</p>

<p>identifying the specific impacts drought has had on multiple sectors in Iraq.</p>	<p>2013)UNESCO collected data on a small set of telemetrically operated hydro-meteorological stations and additional data on hydropower generation,groundwater production wells and tourism.</p> <p>IAU continued to prepare additional maps for vegetation coverage and the production of cartographic products from internet based satellite images. These are expected to be finalized by the end of April 2013.</p>
<p><b>1.2 Consultation and Consensus-Building</b> Continuous efforts to support the development of a consensus on the definition and causal and cross-sectoral linkages of drought, and on appropriate approaches to DRM.</p>	<p>A request for additional outputs (3&amp;4), scope of work on sand and dust storm and additional funds of USD 280,000 is in progress. This will be included in the current DRM and be carried out by FAO and UNEP. The request is due to the strong linkages between drought, desertification and dust storms and the need for coherent and integrated approaches to address these issues. The SC agreed that integrating dust storms into the existing DRM would be the most cost-effective approach to ensure speedy delivery of support activities.</p>
<p>Output 2. Iraq has a participatory, comprehensive, and inclusive national framework for Drought Risk Management in line with international good practice.</p>	
<p><b>2.1 Technical Assessment and Consultation</b>– Conducting vulnerability assessment of drought impacts by agriculture, environmental and water sectors with a focus on gender sensitivity aspects and identifying appropriate risk reduction approaches to DRM by various GoI institutions and bodies, and of the importance of a DRM framework to many development issues in Iraq.</p>	<p>Term of Reference was prepared in March and proposals have been requested from service provider/contractor toconduct a Vulnerability Assessment to identify, quantify, and prioritize (or score) the vulnerabilities to drought. In order to assess the threats from potential drought hazards to various sectors across social, economic, environmental, and political fields, the service provider/contractor will perform the following steps: 1) Outline assets and resources across water, agriculture and environmental sectors in Iraq, 2) Identify the vulnerabilities or potential threats to each resource, and 3) Propose mitigation prevention/preparedness measures for the most serious vulnerabilities for the most valuable sectors/assets. Two validationworkshops are scheduled to be held in June and July 2013in order to disseminate the findings and recommendations of the assessment and to propose possible prevention, preparedness, and mitigation approaches to the DRM.</p>
<p><b>2.2. Technical Planning Assistance</b> – Provision of guidance by technical specialists on different aspects of DRM framework formulation, including exposing Iraqi partners to international DRM frameworks, tools, and techniques.</p>	<p>UNDP: Identifying pressing risk measures and vulnerabilities defining main elements for drought risk reduction in Iraq. Based on the vulnerability assessment, the framework captures the following, but not be limited to: (1) Policies and governance structure for the DRM; (2) Drought risk identification, impact assessment and early warning; (3) Drought awareness and knowledge management with a focus on gender sensitivity and mainstreaming tools; (4) Effective drought mitigation and preparedness measures. An integrated, comprehensive, and inclusive national DRM framework with action plans drafted.</p> <p>UNESCO selected an international consultant to help develop Best Management Practices in DRM. The guideline will be developed to provide orientation for a systematic approach to tackle the issues of DRM, address planning framework, organizational and institutional, methodological and operational dimensions. The consultantwill start on May 2 until the end of the project period (Jul 31 2013), which the Letter of Extension allocated it to be 25 days.</p>

Output 3. National partners have enhanced understanding and knowledge on the causes and trends of sand/dust storm affecting Iraq
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UNEP and FAO will implement Outputs 3 through Q3 & Q4
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Output 4. Development of national programme to monitor, combat and mitigate dust/sand storms and enhance regional cooperation.
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UNEP and FAO will implement Outputs 4 through Q3 & Q4
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<b>Key implementation constraints and challenges (2-3 sentences)</b>
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1. During its data mining activities, UNESCO encountered on multiple occasions, highly deficient hydro-administrative information i.e. river basin information including catchment, drainage, groundwater, soil and soil moisture and etc., and weak management procedures, showing substantial institutional shortcomings and inherent inabilities to fulfill official duties based on given mandates. Furthermore, responsibilities were found to be fragmented and inconsistently administered. This applies to almost all sectors under consideration for UNESCO's DRM-survey.
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